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Message from the President

January 28, 2014

Dear AABANY Members and Friends,

We are pleased to present to you the 2013 Year-End Report for the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY).

Through the hard work, dedication, creativity and passion of our Directors, Officers, Committee Chairs, Advisory Committee and our members, AABANY has become one of the preeminent minority bar associations in the country. I urge each of you to read this report where you will gain a new level of appreciation for the breadth and scope of our programs and the impact that AABANY has had on both our community and the legal profession in 2013.

We encourage each of you to remain actively involved in AABANY in 2014. The success that we have achieved today is the result of members such as yourselves volunteering their time, energy and talents to further AABANY’s mission. It truly has been a privilege for me to serve as President this past year and I eagerly look forward to the continued growth and prosperity of AABANY in this New Year.

Very truly yours,

Mike Huang
AABANY President

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Mission Statement

The Asian American Bar Association of New York was formed in 1989 as a not-for-profit corporation to represent the interests of New York Asian American attorneys, judges, law professors, legal professionals, paralegals and law students. The mission of AABANY is to improve the study and practice of law, and the fair administration of justice for all by ensuring the meaningful participation of Asian Americans in the legal profession.

History

In 1988, the New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities, headed by noted African American attorney Franklin Hall Williams, examined the treatment of minority litigants and court employees. Following hearings in New York City on June 29th and 30th of that year, Rockwell Chin approached Commissioner Serene K. Nakano to discuss the need for an organization for Asian American attorneys. While Chinese and Korean American lawyer associations existed, there had never been an association of Asian American lawyers in New York.

Further impetus came when the National Asian American Bar Association (later called NAPABA) Planning Committee invited various attorneys in New York City to Chicago in October 1988. A core group, including Rockwell Chin, Glenn Ikeda, Yat T. Man, Steve Min and Serene K. Nakano, worked to found a formal association of Asian American lawyers: drafting organizational documents, reaching out to New York and nationwide bar groups, and contacting other Asian American attorneys.

Announcing AABANY’s incorporation on October 20, 1989, the group invited attorneys to an inaugural reception at New York University Law School on November 9, 1989. Among the speakers were Judge Dorothy Chin Brandt, Judge Randall Eng, Judge Peter Tom, past president of the American Immigration Law Association Benjamin Gim, Professor Sharon Hom, AALDEF Program Director Stanley Mark, and former NYPD Deputy Commissioner Hugh Mo. All of the speakers emphasized the unfulfilled need for AABANY. The reception was a resounding success, with over 180 attorneys and law students attending. Before the meeting concluded, over 60 people had joined AABANY.

AABANY, operating under an interim board during its first year, hosted further receptions, including evening social events, as well as a meeting at Brooklyn Law School at which Hoyt Zia, then the first President of NAPABA, spoke. Newly formed committees also sprang into action. The Issues Committee, co-chaired by Rockwell Chin and Marilyn Go, began research on redistricting, assisted lobbying for bias crimes legislation and spoke out against bias incidents. The Business Law Committee, co-chaired by Ken Chin and Marilyn Go, established a speaker series of prominent Asian American attorneys. The Events Committee hosted a Fall picnic. Prompted by concerns raised by law students at the picnic, Chin Fong and James Minamoto established a student mentor program, presenting a job skills workshop to help law students hone interviewing skills.

On January 12, 1991, AABANY held its first annual meeting, electing Serene Nakano, Doris Ling-Cohan, Steve Min, Glenn Ikeda and Marilyn Go as officers and Rockwell Chin, Sylvia Fung Chin, Merlin Liu, Stanley Mark, Qazi Moid and Judge Peter Tom as directors.

Now one of the most prominent and active minority bar associations in New York, AABANY has more than 2,100 current and past members, including practicing attorneys in the private and public sectors, in-house lawyers, judges, professors, law students and legal professionals.

Photo courtesy of Peter Chin

# Sponsors and Partners

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- Asia Society
- Asian American Arts Alliance
- Asian American International Film Festival
- Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
- MinKwon Center for Community Action
Awards and Recognitions

Making an Impact in 2013

ABANY members and friends received many awards and acknowledgements in 2013. We congratulate:

ABANY, recognized by the New York State Bar Association’s Conference of Bar Leaders with a Bar Leaders Innovation Award for the APA Heritage Month production of “Iva: The Myth of Tokyo Rose,” a collaboration with the Asian American Arts Alliance.

Hon. Pamela K. Chen, confirmed as a United States District Judge in the Eastern District of New York, the first female Chinese-American Article III Judge outside of California;

Yang Chen, recipient of the “2013 Community Excellence Award” at the First Annual Moon Festival Honoree Gala, organized by NAAAP;

Hon. Denny Chin, recipient of the “Unity through Diversity Award” at New York Law School’s 2013 Spring Banquet;

Steve Choi, named a “Rising Star” by the New York Law Journal;

Rio Guerrero, recipient of The Outstanding Filipino Americans in New York Award for Public Service and Politics;


Blossom Kan, named a “Rising Star” by The Minority Corporate Counsel Association and by the New York Law Journal;

Glenn Lau-Kee, featured in World Journal as the first Asian American President-Elect of the New York State Bar Association;

Jean Lee, elected to the Board of Directors for the Minority Corporate Counsel Association; delivered keynote speech at the Asian Canadian Law Students Conference, Perseverance in the Face of Adversity 2013;

Robert Leung, honored at the Association of Asian American Yale Alumni Fifth Annual Lunar New Year Fundraiser;


Kin Ng, recipient of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association’s “Outstanding Alumni Award” and “Community Service Award”;

Michael Park, recipient of NAPABA’s 2013 “Best Lawyers Under 40” award;

Asim Rehman, recipient of NAPABA’s 2013 “Best Lawyers Under 40” award;

Teena-Ann V. Sankoorikal, named a “Rising Star” by The Minority Corporate Counsel Association and the by the New York Law Journal;

Helen Wan, selected as Real Simple Magazine’s December Book Club Pick for The Partner Track, which was published in Fall 2013;

Karen I. Wu, recipient of the American Bar Association’s “Nonprofit Outstanding Young Lawyer Award”;

Karen Yau, named Executive Director of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families;

Tsui Yee, recipient of the 2013 “Dena Coye Outstanding Woman Entrepreneurship Award”;

Dwight Yoo, honored at the Fourth Annual CUP Lawyers Forum, CUP Catalysts: Change Agents 2013;

Alice Young, honored as the 2013 Corporate Honoree at the First Annual Moon Festival Honoree Gala, organized by the National Association of Asian American Professionals (“NAAAP”);

James Yu, honored at Rutgers-Newark School of Law Asian Pacific American Law Students Association Mela;

We are privileged to count so many prominent, committed and dedicated members of the legal community among our membership and circle of supporters.
Membership Secretary’s Report

Irene Tan, Acting Membership Secretary and Judy H. Kim, Outgoing Membership Secretary

The Membership Committee, chaired by the Membership Secretary, develops recommendations for programs and services that will meet the needs of the current membership and encourage new members to join AABANY.

In 2013, the Committee launched several initiatives to increase membership and streamline the administrative process of maintaining AABANY’s large membership roster.

As of year-end 2013, there were approximately 901 active, dues-paying members of AABANY. Of the total membership, 26.2 percent identified themselves as lawyers in the private sector and 14.7 percent as lawyers in the public sector and judiciary. Law students comprise 20.1 percent of the total membership. Compared to year-end 2012, AABANY’s membership grew by approximately 11 percent.

AABANY’s membership rolls also include 1,200 past members who are sent periodic updates about AABANY’s activities in hopes that they will renew and become active again in AABANY. Combined with our roster of current, paid-up members, AABANY’s total membership stands at more than 2,100 current and past members.

The Executive Director, Administrative Assistant and the Membership Secretary spent a considerable amount of time in 2013 continuing to improve the maintenance of AABANY’s vast membership database. These efforts have produced a much more accurate picture of AABANY’s membership roster and allowed the Membership Secretary to produce quarterly reports showing any increase or decrease in memberships and by category, thus enabling the Committee to target specific categories of membership.

In that connection, the Committee co-sponsored the “Get to Know AABANY” series throughout 2013 which focused on increasing membership in AABANY generally and specifically among those in government and public interest sector. Judy Kim, as the outgoing Membership Secretary, would like to thank the Committee members, Yang Chen, Margaret Langston and all of AABANY’s various Committees in making this series a success. The Committee plans to continue with the series annually.

At the AABANY Holiday Party on December 6, 2013, AABANY announced the launch of its drive to 1,000 campaign with a colorful red pledge card to simplify the process whereby prospective and current members can let us know of their interest in joining or renewing membership. AABANY’s Committees have been hard at work promoting this membership drive at their various events. We look forward to meeting our goal of reaching 1,000 paid members by the 25th Anniversary annual dinner and thereafter, surpassing that number in years to come!

AABANY thanks Judy Kim for her years of dedicated service to AABANY’s members and community and wish her continued success in all her endeavors.

Treasurer’s Report

Jane Chuang, Treasurer

In 2013, AABANY worked towards its goals of providing quality programs and increasing benefits for its members, while also growing its treasury and recruiting additional staff. Due to improvements in our financial recordkeeping procedures that were instituted in 2012, we were able to focus on implementing a more strategic budgetary plan to build upon our signature events, fund new committees, and work to increase our active membership roll. Thanks to your generous support, we have been able to make an impact for our members and our community as detailed in this Year-End Report.

In 2013, the Board approved a general operational budget of approximately $455,000.00, including a committee budget of about $30,000.00. As of the last reporting date, our income will exceed our expenses by approximately $80,000.00. We will have final numbers after our fiscal year ends on January 31, 2014. (Note, however, that a bylaw revision has been proposed to change AABANY’s fiscal year so that it runs from April 1 to March 31.)

As of January 21, 2014, our investment account balance is $354,035.38 and our operating account balance is $23,910.03. AABANY’s Investment Manager, Kai Chong Cheng of Merrill Lynch’s Private Wealth Management Group, has invested AABANY’s funds in accordance with the conservative approach stated in the Investment Policy that the AABANY Board adopted on June 14, 2011. AABANY’s total performance return for 2013 (including cash and investments) was 4.79%.

We thank you again for your support and hope you will continue to join us in our efforts to empower a diverse and united legal community in 2014.
Year in Review

Yang Chen, Executive Director

2013 was a full and eventful year for AABANY, whose members could be seen participating in community events, organizing programs for legal professionals, collaborating with bar associations and community partners, and being recognized for their individual or collective efforts in these areas.

AABANY added three new committees in 2013: Commercial Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee, Career Placement Committee and Labor and Employment Law Committee. More details about these committees appear in the Committee Reports. Discussions have taken place in 2013 for the formation of additional committees in the areas of antitrust law, tax law, and military and veteran affairs. AABANY also plans to establish an LGBT Committee.

On the administrative front, towards the end of the year, AABANY announced a new address: 45 Rockefeller Plaza, moving from the P.O. Box at Grand Central Station that had been our mailing address for many years. AABANY also migrated its website to a new platform, and we hope this technological transition will lead to a better online experience for our members and the general public.

Below are some highlights from 2013 that illustrate how AABANY was making an impact in the legal profession and APA community.

AABANY 2013 Officers and Directors Take Office
January 24, 2013 At the Annual Meeting generously hosted by Cravath, Swaine & Moore, members elected the AABANY 2013 Officers and Directors, who started their terms effective February 1, 2013. At the meeting, AABANY distributed copies of its 2012 Year-End Report, which featured a new layout and more information about AABANY’s history, mission and supporters, as well as copies of the Winter 2013 edition of The AABANY Advocate, its quarterly newsletter.

Special Events
January 31, 2013 The Judiciary Committee co-organized a community celebration in honor of the Hon. Randall T. Eng to recognize his historic elevation to Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, the first Asian American to be appointed to this position. About 250 attendees filled Delight 28 in Manhattan’s Chinatown, next door to where Presiding Justice Eng and his family first moved upon arriving in the United States from Hong Kong.

Many AABANY members were present, including then-President Jean Lee, Immediate Past President Linda Lin and past presidents James Chou, Vincent Chang, Yang Chen and Glenn Lau-Kee. The Prosecutors’ Committee also turned out in force, having honored Presiding Justice Eng as a trailblazer in 2011. Presiding Justice Eng’s parents, wife, sister and in-laws also came out to celebrate along with many community members and leaders from Chinatown and Westchester.

February 27, 2013 AABANY held its 24th Annual Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street. See sidebar.

AABANY 24th Annual Dinner

February 27, 2013 AABANY held its 24th Annual Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street. This year’s dinner was AABANY’s largest to date, drew over 750 guests and sponsorships from over 60 law firms and corporations. Attendees included Federal and State judges; representatives of elected officials and dignitaries; attorneys from large and small firms, corporate law departments, prosecutors’ offices, and government agencies; and law students. AABANY was pleased to also be joined by bar association leaders from NYSBA, KALAGNY, MBBA, SABANY, MuBANY, and the PRBA. Richard Lui of MSNBC emceed.

Honorees that evening were Pamela K. Chen, then Assistant U.S. Attorney (EDNY), who received the 2013 Women’s Leadership Award; Stuart Alderoty, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel of HSBC North America Holdings Inc., who received the 2013 Corporate Counsel Leadership Award; and Gary Lynch, Global General Counsel and Head of Compliance and Regulatory Relations of Bank of America, who received the 2013 Diversity Leadership Award and delivered the keynote speech. Real Estate Committee Chair Margaret Ling, Senior Counsel at Summit Associates, received the AABANY MVP Award.
May, 2013  AABANY celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in numerous ways, including with two performances of “Iva: The Myth of Tokyo Rose,” at the Asia Society, co-produced with the Asian American Arts Alliance. See sidebar.

June 13, 2013  The Asian American Law Fund of New York (AALFNY), formerly the AABANY Foundation and AABANY’s 501(c)(3) affiliate, had its annual Summer Reception fundraiser this year at Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP. Glenn Lau-Kee, past AABANY President and 2013 NYSBA President-elect, was the special honoree. In June 2014, Glenn will take his place as the first Asian American President of NYSBA.

Also honored that evening were the recipients of AALFNY’s Community Service Scholarship Awards and the AALFNY-SABANY Public Interest Fellowship. Also in attendance were many interns from this year’s class of the Joint Minority Bar Judicial Internship Program (JMB JIP), co-sponsored by AALFNY, AABANY, the MBBA, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Puerto Rican Bar Association and SABANY.

July 11, 2013  AABANY members presented “Heart Mountain—May 2013

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tian: Conscience, Loyalty and the Constitution” at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP. “Heart Mountain” is a re-enactment of the historic World War II case of the 63 Japanese-American draft resisters who were interned at Heart Mountain in Wyoming and refused to report for U.S. military service. They were willing to fight for their country, but only after their rights as citizens were restored. The program was presented by a team of AABANY members, which included Cadwalader Partner Kathy Hirata Chin and Special Counsel Lauren U.Y. Lee. The group develops and performs re-enactments of important moments in Asian American legal history, which are first performed at the annual NAPABA convention in November. The Hon. Denny Chin, Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the Hon. Kiyo Matsumoto, Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, also participated in the evening’s program. This program offered attendees 1.5 CLE credits and was free of charge.

July 24, 2013 AABANY co-sponsored New York’s premiere of “Linsanity,” the feature documentary about NBA sensation Jeremy Lin. The film was the Opening Night Presentation of the 36th annual Asian American International Film Festival, hosted by Asian CineVision at the Asia Society. Director Evan Jackson Leong and producers Christopher Chen, Allen Lu, and Brian Yang attended the premiere and participated in a follow-up Q&A session led by ESPN sportswriter and columnist Pablo S. Torre. AABANY secured a limited number of tickets to the Opening Night and offered its members an exclusive opportunity to bid on the tickets, with proceeds in excess of cost donated by AABANY to AALFNY.

August 22, 2013 AABANY held a Night at the Theatre event. Members signed up to attend “Around the World in 80 days” for free at the New Theater at 45th Street. AABANY was able to obtain more than forty tickets for the attendees, thanks to Cedric Yau, producer of “Around the World in 80 Days.” The night was filled with laughter from young and old alike in the audience. AABANY members had a great time with their family and friends at the show.

September 20, 2013 AABANY hosted an In-House Counsel/Partner’s Dinner to raise funds to support AALFNY, which provides scholarships to minority law students. Many senior in-house lawyers, general counsels and partners were in attendance. AABANY raised approximately $14,000 for AALFNY.

September 21, 2013 The NAPABA Northeast Regional/AABANY Fall Conference was held at the New York offices of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. Over 350 people attended this year’s conference, making it the largest AABANY Fall Conference to date. Participants included in-house counsel, judges, high-level government attorneys, law firm partners, nonprofit leaders, law firm associates, solo or small firm practitioners, and law students. Attorneys from all seven NAPABA Northeast Regional Affiliates were represented. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive.

The event featured 13 individual CLE panel sessions, a plenary lunch session addressing the U.S. Supreme Court Fisher v. University of Texas affirmative action case, law firm pitch sessions, and an intensive full-day trials skills program. The conference also included the launch of AABANY’s Career Exchange and a new year of the AABANY Mentorship Program. The evening concluded with a Cocktail Reception, followed by four separate committee dinners, and an after party.

Photos from the 2013 NAPABA Northeast Regional/AABANY Fall Conference have been posted to the blog, with recaps at the links below:


(Continued from page 9)
Tang Moot Court Competition, Northeast Regional, held at Brooklyn Law School. Finalists faced a tough final round judged by a panel that included the Hon. Marilyn D. Go, United States Magistrate Judge, Eastern District of New York. Lawson Huynh and Jonathan Yi of St. John’s University School of Law took first place. The pair went on to compete at the NAPABA National Convention in Kansas City in November.


January 30, 2013 AABANY’s For those who did not see “22 Lewd Chinese Women” performed at the NAPABA National Convention, or for those who wish to see it again, AABANY’s Trial Re-enactment Team will be performing it again at Cadwalader on January 30, led by Hon. Denny Chin and Kathy Hirata Chin.

Panels and CLEs
In addition to the many CLE programs organized by AABANY’s Committees in 2013, detailed more fully in the Committee Report section, the following CLE programs were either presented by or with AABANY or AABANY members were speakers on them.

March 18, 2013 Hon. Jeffrey K. Oing spoke on NYSBA’s Smooth Moves 2013 CLE panel, "Enhancing Your Professional Profile Through Board Service: Opportunities in the For-Profit and Not-For-Profit Sectors." Topics included ethical challenges, business development opportunities, and career benefits.

March 19, 2013 Hon. Lillian Wan, past Co-Chair of AABANY’s Government and Public Sector Committee (now the Government Service and Public Interest Committee), was a panelist on, “Invisible or In Charge? Exploring AAPI Leadership in America.” The event was co-sponsored by AABANY and the Binghamton University Asian and Asian Alumni Council.

May 15, 2013 AABANY co-sponsored "Intellectual Property Considerations in China: Doing Deals & Enforcing your Rights" CLE at the New York City Bar. Panelists Jennifer Choe Groves, Ping Gu, Phillip Hirschkorn, Ethan Lee, and Dr. James Zhu, discussed enforcement of IP rights in China, as well as recent changes in Chinese law.

May 16, 2013 AABANY co-sponsored “Starting Your Own Practice in New York” CLE hosted by the New York State Bar Association. Attendees enjoyed one full day of informative panels that ranged from “Starting Your Own Law Practice: The Basics” to “Marketing Your Solo Practice Ethically and Effectively.” Panelists discussed how to start a law practice; how to determine the right legal specialty; how to increase one’s list of contacts; and how to handle referral business.

June 6, 2013 AABANY in collaboration with MinKwon Center for Community Action (MinKwon) co-sponsored “Naturalization and Citizenship Application Assistance” CLE, which helped prepare AABANY members who had volunteered to offer pro bono counseling to attendees at the All-Day Citizenship Day Clinic, part of MinKwon’s Summer Pro Bono Clinics.

Community Education and Outreach
In addition to the community outreach and education efforts and events by our many Committees, detailed in the Committee Reports, below are other examples of AABANY’s activities that benefited the APA and other communities in New York.

March 12, 2013 AABANY hosted a delegation from Cambodia’s Royal Academy for Judicial Professions, which trains Cambodia’s
judges, prosecutors, and bailiffs. The delegation was visiting New York, Boston, and Washington, D.C., to learn more about the American legal system. AABANY connected the delegation with APABA-DC and NAPABA when they visited the nation’s capital.

March 21, 2013 AABANY, AALDEF, MinKwon, Alliance for South Asian American Labor, Asian American Studies Program at CUNY, and Chhaya CDC hosted "The Asian American Vote 2012 in New York and Support for Immigration Reform" at the midtown offices of Dickstein Shapiro LLP. AALDEF Democracy Program Director Glenn Magpantay presented the results of exit polling data taken by AALDEF during the 2012 elections in New York, revealing voting patterns and information about APA voters often overlooked by mainstream voter surveys. Among the reported findings was the strong support within the APA community for immigration reform.

March 30, 2013 AABANY and MinKwon hosted a free legal clinic. Volunteer attorneys provided legal advice on immigration, labor, housing, foreclosure, family law, elder law, and real estate.

April 20, 2013 MinKwon and AABANY presented "Citizenship Day for the Asian American Community." Volunteer attorneys provided pro bono legal consultation and assistance with filing citizenship applications at MinKwon’s Flushing offices.

May 15, 2013 AABANY co-sponsored a reception for LGBT and South Asian Lawyers at Shearman & Sterling LLP. AALDEF gave a special presentation on Asian American Support for Same-Sex Marriage. Attendees also had the opportunity to donate to a scholarship fund for students who wished to attend the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance conference.

May 20, 2013 AABANY joined the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families and supporters at "Growing Numbers, Growing Impact: Mayoral Candidates Forum on Asian Pacific Americans." Over 500 community members gathered at this event to listen to the Mayoral Candidates address key issues affecting the APA community, such as civic engagement, economic development, education, health, housing, immigration, and social services. Richard Lui, NBC and MSNBC News Anchor, moderated the forum.

June 6, 2013 AABANY joined several other bar associations to co-sponsor “An Evening with the New York City Mayoral Candidates” at the New York City Bar. The event first hour was devoted to Republican and Independent candidates: Adolfo Carrión Jr. was the Independent and the Republican candidates in attendance were Joseph Lhota, John Catsimatidis and George McDonald. The next hour was dedicated to the Democratic candidates: Sal Albanese, Bill de Blasio, John Liu and Bill Thompson. Errol Louis of NY1 moderated. It was an informative and engaging forum, and we thank New York City Bar for hosting it and MBBA and Network of Bar Leaders for bringing the bar groups together. AABANY live tweeted from the event and its tweets got several re-tweets from the candidates.

June 7, 2013 AABANY took part in the 10th Anniversary Caren Aronowitz Unity in Diversity Celebration at the New York State Supreme Court Rotunda. AABANY provided samples of Chinese Dim Sum from one of oldest tea parlors in Chinatown, Nom Wah, to courthouse workers and members of the surrounding community.

July 29, 2013 Tsui Yee, Co-Chair of the Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, spoke on an LGBT Immigration CLE panel. Panelists participated an in-depth discussion of the specific impact of the United States Supreme Court’s Windsor decision on the LGBT community. In addition, panelists provided practitioners from all practice areas with the basics of green card applications.

September - October, 2013 AABANY, the New York County DA’s office, the New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA) and various community organizations co-sponsored a series of workshops geared towards small business owners and educating them about how to comply with state and city tax laws, and regulation. All workshops were free and open to the public. The topics covered were: maintaining business books and records (Sept. 17), proper filing of State and City business taxes (Sept. 24), complying with labor and workers’ compensation laws (Oct. 1), obtaining and reviewing necessary licenses and permits from certain municipal agencies (Oct. 15), and immigration issues affecting small business owners (Oct. 22). AABANY contributed speakers, a translator and refresh-
September 12, 2013 AABANY attended the Inaugural Gala of the Queens Asian Bar Association (QABA) held at the Dae Dong Manor in Queens. Hon. Randall T. Eng, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, presented the keynote speech.

September 25, 2013 AABANY attended the 7th annual Leadership Awards Gala of the South Asian Bar Association of New York (SABANY) held at the Tribeca Rooftops. The keynote speech was given by Neal Katyal, former Acting Solicitor General.

September 26, 2013 MinKwon held its 29th Anniversary Gala in Queens. AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen and Real Estate Committee Chair Margaret Ling attended the wonderful gala held at Dae Dong Manor. The New York Community Trust and Freedom University received the Standing Up for Justice Award. AABANY is a continuous supporter of MinKwon Pro Bono Clinics, frequently held to aid those in need of legal advice.

November 25, 2013 AABANY joined with FALANY, AALFNY, APALA-NJ and APABA-DC to co-host a fundraiser for Typhoon Haiyan Relief at the Public House in midtown Manhattan. All proceeds went to Gawad Kalinga and University of the Philippines Medical Alumni Society in America to help the victims of Typhoon Haiyan. AABANY has continued to publish updates and stay involved with relief efforts throughout the remainder of 2013 and will continue doing so into 2014.

Networking
April 9, 2013 AABANY was invited to participate in the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP)-NY’s monthly “Talk Tuesday,” which brings together members of different industries, community partners, and corporate affinity groups for a night of mingling, cocktails, and discussion.

July 9, 2013 AABANY held its annual Summer Reception at Kenyon & Kenyon LLP. Our gracious host was John Flock, a Partner at the firm and AABANY President in 1999. Attendees networked while enjoying the magnificent views of lower Manhattan and New York Bay from the firm’s outdoor terrace. Immediately following the reception, AABANY held its July Board Meeting at the firm.

August 24, 2013 AABANY hosted its End of Summer Happy Hour at the ever-popular K2 Lounge in the Rubin Art Museum. Attendees had a chance to meet, mix, and mingle with members and friends at the hip and popular venue. AABANY members enjoyed 2-for-1 drink specials and tasty hors d’oeuvres, and had the opportunity to explore the museum’s Friday night programming and view the museum’s collection of Tibetan and Himalayan art.

August 28, 2013 AABANY attended NYCLA’s Asia Practice Committee’s Happy Hour Networking Party held at the Tuscani Bar in midtown Manhattan. Many legal, business, and financial professionals in Asian/International practice attended this event. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to mix and mingle with business partners, forge professional relationships, and develop business opportunities. AABANY was a promotional co-sponsor of the event. The co-organizer was ICMA (International Capital Markets Alliance). KALAGNY and the US-China CEO Association were among the co-sponsors.

September 12, 2013 AABANY organized a “Get Out The Vote” Happy Hour in connection with the NAPABA Election. Attendees were encouraged to cast their votes and enjoyed special cocktails named after the AABANY-endorsed candidates Mike Yim and Han Choi.

December 6, 2013 Members and friends gathered to kick-off the holiday season at AABANY’s Annual Holiday Party, filling up nearly the entire space on the second floor of Kristalbella. Events included the launch of AABANY’s drive to 1,000 paid members campaign and a donations collection for Typhoon Haiyan Relief. Donors received free tickets to the Joint Bar Holiday Party, which took place later that same night at Copacabana, and their business cards entered in a raffle drawing for two All-Access tickets to a Nets game at the Barclay Center in January. The prize was donated by AABANY’s party sponsor, Hudson Court Reporting. The Holiday Party ended around 9pm and a number of the attendees headed over to the Joint Bar Holiday Party at the Copacabana, not letting the rain get in the way of continuing the holiday celebrations.

December 6, 2013 AABANY joined with the Association of Black Women Attorneys, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Dominican Bar Association, KALAGNY, MBBA, Nigerian Lawyers Bar Association and SABANY for the Annual Joint Bar Association Holiday Party at Copacabana on December 6. Hundreds of professionals from the New York City area attended the event and toys were collected for Toys for Tots.
Committee Reports

AABANY does its work through its many committees. Below is a current list of committees and email addresses to reach the various committee chairs. Each chair is appointed by the President to serve one-year terms. Committee Reports from various active committees follow, detailing their events and programs during FY 2013.

Table: AABANY Committees 2013

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Academic Committee

Linda Lin and Sarah Seo, Committee Co-Chairs

The Academic Committee's mission is to serve AABA-NY members in legal academia and to foster greater interaction between the legal academia and practicing attorneys.

In June, the Academic Committee organized a panel on different paths to law teaching. Professors Elaine Chiu (St. John's), David Han (Pepperdine Law School), and James Park (UCLA Law School) shared their experiences and offered advice to navigate the tough job market for law teaching jobs.

The Academic Committee helped to organize the plenary session at the AABANY Fall Conference in September. The Hon. Pamela Chen of the Eastern District of New York moderated a panel on affirmative action and the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Fisher v. University of Texas. The discussion was especially engaging because each of the distinguished panelists was involved in the case before the Supreme Court. Panelists included William Consovoy of Wiley Rein LLP, who had represented plaintiff Abigail Fisher; Michael Park of Dechert LLP, who had filed an amicus brief on behalf of current and former federal civil rights officials; and Khin Mai Aung of AALDEF and Hemmie Chang of Foley Hoag LLP, who had submitted an amicus brief on behalf of AALDEF. The goal of the plenary session was to encourage a thoughtful and ongoing conversation about the impact of affirmative action on Asian Americans and in society more broadly.

The Academic Committee also oversees the publication of the AABANY Law Review. The Law Review is designed to act as a forum for the exchange of ideas and to inspire scholarly debate on matters of concern to the APA community. It also provides a means through which AABANY members and friends can publish scholarly works and law students can gain valuable journal experience.

The next issue of the AABANY Law Review is slated for publication in late February 2014 and will include a mix of both original and re-published pieces, spanning a range of topics relevant to the APA community. The issue will feature the winning pieces from last year's scholarly paper prize and student note competition, which were created to encourage APA legal scholarship. These winning pieces include an engaging historical narrative of the 1942 Regan v. King case (involving the attempted disenfranchisement of Japanese-Americans) by Professor Greg Robinson of the University of Quebec at Montreal and a student note about the disparate impact standard in Fair Housing Act cases by Daniel Bowman. The issue will also include an introductory letter from the Hon. Pamela K. Chen. Please visit www.aabanylawreview.org for more information.
Career Placement Committee

Robert Leung, Michael Park and Gurinder Singh, Committee Co-Chairs

On August 21, 2013, AABANY announced the formation of the Career Placement Committee. The primary purpose of the Committee is to match qualified AABANY members with available legal positions.

The Committee runs the AABANY Career Exchange, which serves as a clearinghouse for all legal positions brought to its attention and proactively seeks to match qualified AABANY candidates with such open positions. AABANY members who are aware of open legal positions or who are actively seeking or considering seeking a new position are encouraged to contact one of the Career Placement Committee co-chairs.

The Committee hosted an AABANY Career Exchange booth during the NAPABA Northeast Regional/Fall Conference on September 21. AABANY members were invited to participate in informational one-on-one meetings with members of the new Committee, talk about their career interests, skill sets and areas of expertise, as well as drop off their resumes.

The Committee also co-sponsored the Fall Style Series with the Student Outreach Committee, Women’s Committee and Young Lawyers’ Committee. More details on the events in this series appear in the Young Lawyers’ Committee report.

Co-Chair Robert Leung announced the launch of the AABANY Career Exchange at the NAPABA Northeast Regional / AABANY Fall Conference on September 21, 2013.
Commercial Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee

Ligee Gu and Vincent Roldan, Committee Co-Chairs

The Commercial Bankruptcy & Restructuring Committee was formed in order to raise awareness of bankruptcy related issues to non-bankruptcy practitioners, as well as provide networking opportunities for APA bankruptcy/restructuring professionals.

In 2013, the Bankruptcy Committee hosted a number of events in order to further that goal. We used this year to focus on generating interest in our new committee, as well as AABANY in general. To start the committee in the right way, we held a Kick-Off Reception at Public House on April 24, 2013, a local restaurant near Grand Central. It was well attended and provided an opportunity for new and returning members to get reacquainted with AABANY and introduced to our new committee.

In addition, in July 2013, the Bankruptcy Committee partnered with the AABANY Intellectual Property Committee and sponsored a CLE program entitled, “Intellectual Property Issues in Bankruptcy.” The panelists were well-known experts in the field: Daniel Lowenthal, a bankruptcy partner at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler; Alan Halperin, a bankruptcy partner at Halperin Battaglia Raicht, LLP; and Michael Lynch, an intellectual property partner at Kelley Drye & Warren. Vincent Roldan, co-chair of the Bankruptcy Committee and partner at Vandenberg & Feliu, moderated. At this CLE program, the panelists spoke about the intricate intellectual property issues that commonly arise in bankruptcies and provided practical advice to non-bankruptcy practitioners (and creditors) on dealing with such issues.

In September 2013, the Bankruptcy Committee also collaborated with the Corporate Law Committee and organized a dinner after the AABANY Fall Conference at Banc, a local restaurant in Murray Hill. The dinner was a success, and members of both committees dined together as well as with numerous in-house counsel. This dinner was sponsored in part by UBS and Donlin Recano & Co.

To close out the year, the Committee held another happy hour, this time on November 20, at the Public House, to bring together friends and colleagues right before the height of the holiday season.

The Bankruptcy Committee looks forward to planning more programs in 2014 of relevance to APA lawyers practicing commercial bankruptcy and restructuring. As always, we welcome and encourage new (or existing) members to join our committee and share with us their experiences, feedback and ideas. Please do not hesitate to contact us at ligee.gu@aabany.org or vincent.roldan@aabany.org.

ABOVE: On July 11, 2013, the Committee co-sponsored with the Intellectual Property Committee a CLE entitled “Intellectual Property Issues in Bankruptcy.” From L to R: Panelists Alan Halperin of Halperin Battaglia Raicht, LLP; Daniel Lowenthal at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP; Michael Lynch of Kelley Drye & Warren LLP; and Committee Co-Chair Vincent Roldan. TOP RIGHT: Co-Chairs Ligee Gu (second from L) and Vincent Roldan (far R) mingle with friends after the Fall Conference dinner which the Committee co-sponsored with the Corporate Law Committee at Banc in Murray Hill. LOWER RIGHT: Fall Conference attendees at the co-sponsored dinner enjoy the good food and company.

Photo by Yang Chen
Communications Committee
Karen Kim, Naf Kwun, William Ng and William Wang, Committee Co-Chairs

The Communications Committee oversees all initiatives by AABANY to communicate with its members, constituents, the Asian Pacific American community and the community at large. The Committee is responsible for issuing press releases and communications about important legal issues and developments that are relevant and of interest to its members, the Asian Pacific American community, and the general public. The Committee also disseminates information about AABANY events and the achievements of AABANY members and others in the Asian Pacific American community.

The AABANY Advocate
The Communications Committee publishes The AABANY Advocate, a quarterly newsletter that highlights AABANY events and regularly profiles the work of judges, lawyers, community members, and AABANY’s sponsors. The Advocate includes articles written by members about legal news, recent cases, and networking and career opportunities. In 2013, The Advocate continued to profile AABANY’s Corporate Sponsors and distinguished AABANY members.

AABANY Press Releases
In 2013, the Communications Committee issued fourteen (14) press releases. The Committee uses press releases to announce significant news and achievements of AABANY and its members. The Communications Committee’s press releases are distributed to local and national media and have been cited by popular legal websites such as AboveTheLaw.com and The Careerist, a lawjobs.com blog.

AABANY on Social Media
The Communications Committee continued to expand its social media presence by:

- Regularly updating AABANY’s Blog, which has quickly become a valuable source of information for AABANY members looking for APA legal, cultural and social events;
- Utilizing Facebook for special events such as AABANY’s Annual Picnic and various Committee Happy Hours;
- Expanding presence on Twitter with @aabany, @aabanyYLC, @aabanyed and @aabanypres and also live tweeting at AABANY events; and
- Staying connected with AABANY members on LinkedIn and advertising committee events and programs.

The Communications Committee looks forward to another busy and successful year in 2014.

AABANY Press Releases
A selection of the Committee’s Press Releases in 2013:

January 18, 2013 “AABANY Applauds the Nomination of Judge David F. Bauman to the New Jersey Supreme Court”

January 28, 2013 “Former AABANY President Glenn Lau-Kee Named President-Elect of NYSBA”

January 30, 2013 “AABANY Celebrates Appointment of Hon. Justice Randall T. Eng as Presiding Justice of the New York Supreme Court Appellate Division, Second Department”

March 5, 2013 “AABANY Welcomes and Applauds Confirmation of Pamela K. Chen to the Eastern District of New York”

June 28, 2013 “Statement of AABANY Regarding the Supreme Court’s Recent Voting Rights Act Decision”

September 20, 2013 “AABANY to Discuss Impact of U.S. Supreme Court’s Decision in Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin During the 2013 NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference”

September 20, 2013 “AABANY to Hold ‘Post Hurricane Sandy’ Program to Discuss Impact on Northeast During the 2013 NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference”

September 20, 2013 “Helen Wan, Attorney and Author of The Partner Track, to Lead Panel of Women of Color on Making Partner at Large Law Firms During the 2013 NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference”

October 15, 2013 “AABANY Applauds NAAAP-NY’s Selection of Alice Young as 2013 Corporate Law Honoree and Yang Chen as 2013 Community Excellence Awardee for First Annual Moon Festival Honoree Gala”

November 4, 2013 AABANY Supports Proposition 6 and Urges Members and Greater [APA] Community to Vote ‘Yes’ to Increase the Retirement Age of New York State Judges”
Corporate Law Committee

Jonathan C. Kim and Gurinder Singh, Committee Co-Chairs

ABANY’s Corporate Law Committee consists of law firm attorneys who are interested in sharing their ideas and experience as law firm practitioners on a variety of issues facing Asian Pacific American (APA) lawyers, through conferences, continuing legal education (CLE) classes and social networking and volunteering events. Our goal is to establish a forum where our members can exchange ideas with and learn from one another, and we seek to help our members establish stronger relationships with other APA lawyers in the New York region.

In 2013, the Corporate Law Committee built on its past successes by more actively collaborating with other committees to host and co-sponsor events. The Committee kicked-off with a well-attended meeting on March 13, 2013 at Dechert LLP, where the Co-Chairs discussed the tentative calendar of upcoming events and solicited volunteers.

On May 31, 2013 the Committee co-sponsored a “Get to Know AABANY” happy hour and networking event with the Membership, Young Lawyers and Student Outreach Committees. The event was held at Rubin Museum’s K2 Lounge and attracted more than 70 attendees who networked with fellow AABANY members and friends. The event was a great way to wrap up APA Heritage Month.

The Committee collaborated with AABANY’s In-House Counsel Committee to organize what has become a perennial favorite on the AABANY calendar, the Annual Wine Tasting and Networking Reception for Law Firm Attorneys and In-House Counsel. The 6th Annual Winetasting and Networking Reception was held on June 18, 2013 at Inside the Park at St. Bart’s. The event was held at Rubin Museum’s K2 Lounge and attracted more than 70 attendees who networked with fellow AABANY members and friends. The event was a great way to wrap up APA Heritage Month.

On September 9, 2013, the Committee held a panel entitled “How to Effectively Pitch to In-House Counsel” at Dechert LLP. Panelists Steve Chung of NBC Universal, Yun Lee of AIG, Bobby Liu of M.D. Sass, and Michael Yap of Prudential, provided insight into what common mistakes law firms make when pitching in-house counsel. At the end of the session, attendees had a chance to register for AABANY Law Firm Pitch Sessions at the Northeast Regional Fall Conference.

During the AABANY Annual Fall Conference, the Committee, again working with the In-House Counsel Committee, helped organize the second annual Law Firm/In-House Pitch Sessions, which provided law firm participants an opportunity to engage in live pitch sessions to in-house counsel. The Pitch Sessions provided law firm participants with opportunities for developing business and fostering relationships to develop future business.

Following the AABANY Annual Fall Conference, the Committee and the Commercial Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee co-hosted the Bankruptcy and Corporate Committee Dinner at Banc Café. The intimate dinner was attended by several members of both committees as well as several in-house attorneys and proved to be a great networking opportunity.

In December, the Committee Co-Chairs hosted a committee-wide conference call to recap the year and discuss ideas for the first quarter of 2014. During this call, the Co-Chairs encouraged members to get more involved and offered assistance with succession planning for members interested in chairing the Committee in 2014. In addition, on December 28, 2013 the Committee organized a community service event with City Harvest to help feed families in the Washington Heights area of New York City.

Although several of the events listed in the tentative schedule of events discussed during the kick-off meeting were successfully executed, some of the events scheduled for the last quarter of the 2013 calendar year unfortunately did not attract many participants, due to year-end closings and other holiday commitments. For this reason, the Committee plans to host several events during the first quarter of 2014, including a breakfast meeting for its senior members in February.

The Committee looks forward to putting on more programs in 2014 of relevance to APA corporate lawyers, and strongly encourages more APA lawyers practicing in the area to get involved!
Government Service and Public Interest Committee

Yujin Hong and Karen Yau, Committee Co-Chairs

AABANY’s Public Interest and Public Service Committee looks to promote greater numbers of APA lawyers in public interest law and public service and address the concerns of APA lawyers working in these areas. The Committee thus organizes and presents programs geared toward these concerns through CLE seminars, career panels, networking events, and other programs. The Committee actively seeks to work with and co-sponsor events and activities with other AABANY Committees and other public interest organizations that further AABANY’s mission.

During the last year, new co-chairs Karen Kithan Yau and Yujin Hong sought to accomplish the twin goals of bringing high quality programs that drew the interests of government, not-for-profit, and public interest lawyers as well as offer services to the community-at-large. We aimed to provide an environment in which lawyers in the public sector can connect, support, and even commiserate with like-minded lawyers.

On May 24, 2013, GSPI held its first membership meeting of the year. The law firm of Constantine Cannon LLP kindly hosted us. Over a dozen attendees representing ten government agencies, public interest, and not-for-profit agencies came to the meeting, braving sudden and ferocious thunderstorms in the local area. APA public interest and government lawyers candidly discussed heightening the GSPI Committee’s profile and using it as a vehicle to promote social justice for disenfranchised communities and as a support network to do our work and advance in the legal profession.

On November 1, 2013, GSPI and the United Chinese Association of Brooklyn (UCA), a community-based organization hosted a know-your-rights forum on housing rights for Chinese-speaking seniors at UCA’s senior citizen center, as part of GSPI’s new initiative to increase our impact on the Asian community in New York City especially in Brooklyn where fewer resources exist. Our expert featured speaker Charles Y. Liu, an Associate Court Attorney at NYC Housing Court, skillfully informed over 50 seniors about how to apply for government subsidized senior housing, get repairs, and navigate their way through housing court, and also discussed senior citizens’ housing rights in different types of housing as well as provided resources for elderly tenants. Mr. Liu gave an informative session and answered the attendees’ many questions with his trademark candor and wit. Stephanie Yu, AABANY’s intern, skillfully and energetically interpreted the entire forum.

More such community forums are planned for the coming year, including one to educate area school administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, local community-based organizations, parents and undocumented youth about the legal parameters of and how to apply for a groundbreaking two-year moratorium on deportation and the opportunity to secure a work permit for eligible immigrant youth under the federal Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals program. This community presentation is being co-sponsored by the Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund and its undocumented pan-Asian American youth group, Revolutionizing Asian American Immigrant Stories on the East Coast (RAISE). GSPI Committee will be launching a robust collaborative effort to outreach into the community regarding this event, including engagement from various other community-based organizations.

On December 10, 2013, GSPI Committee co-sponsored a...
Holiday Mixer with the Prosecutors’ Committee. It was a great event, well attended, and we were able to collect about 60 necessary items for a local emergency shelter for domestic violence victims run by the New York Asian Women’s Center.

On January 30, 2014, GSPI Committee, with Immigration & Nationality Law, and Pro Bono & Community Service Committees, and Brooklyn Law School’s APALSA, will present “Cross Cultural Lawyering: How to Effectively Represent the Immigrant Population,” a CLE panel. Moderated by Co-Chair Karen, the expert panel will include: Dan Smulian, Associate Professor of Clinical Law at Brooklyn Law School; Patricia Kakalec, Special Counsel at the Labor Bureau in the New York State Attorney General’s Office; and Tsui Yee, Partner at Guerrero Yee, LLP. The program will offer 1.5 CLE credits.

Beyond these events, GSPI Committee has also been envisioning ways to strengthen our network and support government and public interest lawyers more effectively. To that extent, Co-Chair Yujin plans to build a directory of attorneys who work in not-for-profit organizations and government agencies who would be willing to be contacted by members of AABANY. The goal is to have a point of contact for AABANY members at as many agencies and organizations as possible. These individuals could be available to share information about their organizations with potential job applicants or students seeking information on career options.

GSPI Committee leadership has also been in discussion with an attorney with the Northeast Region of the Federal Trade Commission who is active in promoting diversity within the ranks of federal government lawyers, about combining our resources to build up this directory. More generally, we have also preliminarily discussed bringing joint programs in the form of a series of roundtable meetings, speed networking event, or large panel discussion, providing an insider’s view and explaining critical information about the federal job application process, inner-workings of federal agencies, and existing opportunities. We have also discussed how promoting diversity in the public sector is a core element of this federal administration, and also plan to recruit other bar associations in sponsoring these events. In 2014, we hope to bring this great conceptual idea to fruition.

During the last year, GSPI Committee had its very first director of membership, Katrina Goyco who worked tirelessly in thinking of and implementing efforts to bring in new members, reinvigorate the interests of existing members, and broadening GSPI Committee’s reach. Many of the above programs would not have been implemented without Katrina’s hard work and leadership. This added leadership position was crucial in providing additional infrastructure within the GSPI Committee to further its work. In the coming year, we hope that there will be interest among members to join the GSPI Committee leadership structure.
Immigration and Nationality Law Committee

Rio M. Guerrero and Tsui Yee, Committee Co-Chairs

The Immigration and Nationality Law Committee promotes and advances the interests of APA attorneys who practice immigration and nationality law. Our goal is to provide support and professional development for immigration practitioners, many of whom are either in solo or small firm practice, by providing CLE seminars, networking opportunities, and other events.

On February 28, 2013, Co-Chair Rio Guerrero represented AABANY at a press conference held by Asian American community groups to urge Asian Americans in New York to join a national movement for comprehensive immigration reform.

On March 17, 2013, Co-Chair Tsui Yee spoke at Adhikaar’s International Women’s Day (Nari Diwas) 2013: Women’s Leadership for Immigration Reform at PS 12 in Woodside, Queens. The event was a platform to discuss the current immigration reform agenda and how women can take a leadership role in shaping the future of the face of immigration in America. The event’s morning session included a panel of local community members and activists who spoke on the most recent developments regarding comprehensive immigration reform. Tsui offered a legal perspective on what is currently being proposed in the Senate’s bipartisan proposal, while Valeria Treves, Executive Director of New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE), discussed ways in which the immigrant community can ensure that their voice is heard in the shaping of pending legislation.

On March 28, 2013, AABANY joined many APA community groups at a Town Hall meeting to call for real immigration reform. The event was held at LaGuardia Community College in Long Island City, Queens. Tsui Yee, Co-Chair of the Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, and Yang Chen, Executive Director, represented AABANY. At the Town Hall Meeting, many speakers from various APA community groups addressed the need for comprehensive immigration reform that keeps families together and takes into account the needs of APA communities.

On April 23, 2013, the Committee held a meeting, at which guest speaker Rosemary Yu, Co-Director of the Immigration and Affairs Program for New York County District Attorney’s Office and Co-Chair of the Prosecutor’s Committee, spoke about the Immigration Affairs Program and how immigration attorneys can help identify and prevent immigration fraud.


On May 19, 2013, Co-Chair Tsui Yee emceed “Community Briefing: The Immigration Reform Debate” at the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) in Chinatown. Hosted by OCA-NY and Chinese Progressive Association and co-sponsored by AABANY as well as many APA Community Stakeholders, the briefing informed the Asian American community about the proposed changes to overhaul the immigration system and discussed ways that the community can impact comprehensive immigration reform before it becomes final. Featured speakers included Elizabeth R. OuYang, NY Chapter President of OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, May Chen, Director of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, and Mae Lee, Executive Director of Chinese Progressive Association.

On June 8, 2013, AABANY, in collaboration with the MinKwon Center, held an all day pro bono immigration clinic. Volunteers offered interpretation services and legal advice on immigration to visitors of the clinic.

On June 24, 2013, the Committee co-sponsored “Recurring Issues of a Foreign Purchaser in New York City” CLE with the AABANY Real Estate Committee and Solo and Small Firm Committee.

On January 30, 2014, the Committee will co-sponsor a CLE entitled, “Cross Cultural Lawyering: How to Effectively Represent the Immigration Population,” with the Government Service and Public Interest Committee, Pro Bono and Community Service Committee and Brooklyn Law School APALSA.

On December 17, 2013, Co-Chairs Tsui Yee (left) and Rio Guerrero (right) testified at a hearing before the New York City Council Committee on Immigration, chaired by Hon. Daniel Dromm, concerning resolutions to pass the Immigration Fraud Prevention Act of 2011, increase criminal penalties against unscrupulous immigration service providers who have violated state law, and to grant Temporary Protected Status for the Philippines and eligible Filipino nationals.
In-House Counsel Committee

Blossom Kan and Duane Morikawa, Committee Co-Chairs

The In-House Counsel Committee (IHCC) is comprised of in-house counsel interested in sharing their ideas and experiences as members of corporate legal departments on a variety of issues facing Asian Pacific American lawyers and providing a support network for in-house counsel members. The IHCC has sponsored networking events, CLE courses, and other programs.

The IHCC held its kick off meeting on March 26, 2013 to introduce Blossom Kan as the new Co-Chair, discuss the events planned for the year and meet existing and new committee members.

The main event for the IHCC was the Sixth Annual Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception for In-House Counsel and Law Firm Attorneys on June 18, 2013, co-hosted by the IHCC and AABANY’s Corporate Law Committee (“CLC”) at Inside Park at St. Bart’s with the generous support from ten corporate and law firm sponsors. The evening provided an opportunity to bring together IHCC and CLC members, their colleagues, potential new members, and some of AABANY’s top sponsors. The attendees represented in-house counsel from over 46 corporations and other organizations and attorneys from 31 law firms.

The IHCC and AABANY Women’s Committee co-sponsored a Golf Outing on June 5, 2013 at Drive 495. The event provided an opportunity for women in-house counsel and law firm attorneys to network, as well as receive expert advice on their golf skills. More details about the event appear in the Women’s Committee Report.

The IHCC participated in the NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference and Annual AABANY Fall Conference on September 21, 2013 by sponsoring four CLE courses—“How Do GC’s Manage Crisis and Government Investigations;” “Office Politics 101: How to Win the Popularity Contest at Work;” “Girlfriends ‘Lean In’ - When, Where and How;” and the General Counsel Roundtable—and the In-House Counsel Forum, and co-sponsoring the pitch sessions with the CLC. General counsels and senior in-house counsels were invited to participate in the In-House Counsel Forum to discuss pressing issues of particular importance to in-house counsel. The pitch sessions provided an opportunity for law firm attorneys to make pitches to in-house attorneys who had indicated a current need for legal representation from an outside law firm.

The IHCC will continue to develop programs and events to meet the needs and interests of its members.
The Intellectual Property Committee was started in 2011 with the goals of: (1) providing practical skills training, support and opportunities for practicing and aspiring intellectual property lawyers in the New York area; (2) providing resources for artists, authors, and inventors in the Asian American community; and (3) serving as a forum to explore U.S.-Asia intellectual property issues. We were honored to receive the inaugural Outstanding Committee of the Year award for 2011.

The Committee started off its third year by surveying its members for feedback on past programs and ideas for new programs. Among some of the findings of the survey were enthusiastic praise for the IP Skills Workshop series, as well as interest in additional programs related to IP litigation, IP transactions, general trends and developments in U.S. IP-related case law, and going in-house. Further, members indicated that they wanted more networking and mentoring opportunities, and were interested in collaborating with and networking with other committees and bar associations.

Accordingly, we began the year by collaborating with the Metropolitan Black Bar Association's IP and Technology Committee to present on March 14, 2013 a CLE program on the hot topic of data privacy, entitled, “What Happens to Your Data Online?” The panel featured Susan Moon (Wyndham Worldwide and Above the Law), Andy Roth (SNR Denton), Mason Weisz (Hunton & Williams LLP) and Anwesa Paul (American Express), and was moderated by Jessica Lee (Loeb & Loeb LLP). The panelists spoke to a crowded room of 65 attendees from MBBA and AABANY, and addressed how everyday uses of the Internet and social media relate to data privacy and intellectual property issues.

On April 18, 2013, we held our first committee meeting of the year, which centered around a lively roundtable discussion of IP issues of interest to our members, and the planning of events for the year guided by our member survey.

At our In-House IP Careers panel on June 6, 2013, we convened a distinguished panel of in-house IP practitioners to discuss in-house IP opportunities, when to make the move, and the skills needed to land the job and succeed in an in-house role. The panelists included Vernon Chu (General Counsel, BBC Worldwide Americas), Amin Kassam (Counsel, Bloomberg L.P.), Caren Khoo (Assistant General Counsel, Verizon), Anwesa Paul (Privacy Counsel, American Express), and moderator Mavis Fowler-Williams (Lecturer, Columbia Law School).

We collaborated with AABANY’s new Commercial Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee and co-sponsored a CLE program entitled, “Intellectual Property Issues in Bankruptcy” on July 11, 2013. Along with providing a general overview of the treatment of intellectual property in bankruptcy, the panelists also provided helpful tips and strategies to address potential bankruptcy issues that arise in licensing agreements. For additional details, see the Commercial Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee report.

As part of NAPABA’s Northeast Regional Conference on September 21, 2013, we collaborated with AABANY’s Corporate Law Committee and NAPABA’s Entertainment Law Committee to present a CLE panel about the timely topic of crowdfunding and the JOBS Act, “Inspire the Crowd: The Rise of Crowdfunding.” The panelists included Chris Hope (Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP), Kiran Lingam (General Counsel, SeedInvest), Randi Singer (Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP), and moderator Julia Cheng (Cyberlawstudio, PLLC). Following the conference, committee members convened at Fusia for a delicious meal and networking at our IP Committee dinner, generously sponsored by Thomson Reuters and WestLaw.

We held our last committee meeting of 2013 on November 21, 2013 to discuss Judge Chin’s recent decision on fair use in the Google Books litigation and begin planning events for 2014. Our first event of the year in 2014 was a CLE program on January 22, 2014 focusing on recent decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court about patentable subject matter. The panel featured Sapna Palla (Kaye Scholer LLP), Annie Huang (Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P.), and moderator Wan-Chieh (Jenny) Lee (Fay Kaplun & Marcin LLP).

We are proud of all the accomplishments of our committee over the last three years, and are pleased to announce that Wan-Chieh (Jenny) Lee (Fay Kaplun & Marcin LLP) and Stacy Wu (Ladas & Parry LLP) have agreed to serve as the incoming co-chairs of the Committee for 2014.
Issues Committee
Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Committee Chair

The principal function of the Issues Committee is to advise AABANY’s leadership on emerging developments in policy, the legal profession, AAPI issues, or other matters on which the organization may contemplate taking a public position. The issues considered by the Committee tend to be of broad interest to AABANY’s members across practice areas or else have a broad impact on APA communities. The Committee’s role is in part responsive — providing advice on developments in issues of standing interest — and in part proactive — identifying and bringing to the leadership’s attention pertinent issues not currently addressed by existing committees.

The Committee also represents AABANY at meetings, workshops, fora, and other events that address issues in which AABANY has an interest but which may fall outside the traditional scope of the subject matter of the other committees. In addition, the Committee participates in sustained advocacy campaigns to which AABANY has made an organizational commitment. Finally, the Committee serves as a vehicle through which AABANY may undertake special initiatives on targeted issues, including research projects on issues of broad potential impact on AABANY’s members and consideration of amendments to standing AABANY policies.

Issues on which the Committee advised AABANY
- Restricting — The issuance of a statement by the Asian American Community Coalition on Redistricting and Democracy (ACCORD), of which AABANY is a member, on the 2014-2023 NYC Council District Map;
- NJ Supreme Court Nomination — The issuance of a statement regarding the nomination of Judge David Bauman to the New Jersey Supreme Court;
- Letter to NYC Board of Elections — Whether to support, as a member of ACCORD and as a distinct organization, a publicly released letter to the NYC Board of Elections on best practices for the appointment of BOE Commissioners;
- Gender Pay Equity — Whether to issue a statement regarding gender pay equity issues in the legal profession;
- Shelby County v. Holder — The issuance of a statement on the U.S. Supreme Court’s June decision which held the formula in Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act to be unconstitutional; and
- “Alexian Lien Incident” — Whether to issue a statement on the incident involving a violent clash between Alexian Lien and motorcyclists.

Events at which the Committee represented AABANY
- ACCORD meetings — January – March, 2013 — Meetings of the ACCORD coalition in the concluding months of the 2012-2013 New York City redistricting process;
- AAPI Voter Engagement — March 8, 2013 — An AAPI voter education and engagement strategy meeting, organized by the MinKwon Center and attended by 15 AAPI advocacy or community-based organizations;
- Columbia APALSA Conference — April 6, 2013 — “Forging Ahead: The Advancement of Asian American Representation in Law and Politics,” a conference organized by the Columbia Law School’s APALSA for which the Issues Committee helped identify and secure speakers;
- Senator Schumer on Immigration Reform — May 30, 2013 — Meeting with U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer to discuss specifics of the then-pending U.S. Senate Bill S. 744 and overall prospects for enacting immigration reform in Congress;
- Voter Engagement Training — June 11, 2013 — A training in voter engagement targeted to AAPI populations, conducted by Pakou Hang of WGH Consulting and James Hong of the MinKwon Center; and
- White House AAPI Initiative Forum — August 15, 2013 — A Forum hosted by the Regional Interagency Working Group (RIWG) of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, in which senior officials from federal regional offices discussed available federal programs and resources, held workshops on small business, housing, health & social services, and workers’ rights issues, and the distinctive needs of specific AAPI communities in each of these areas.

Special Projects
- Policy on Political Campaigns and Issue Advocacy — A review and proposed modification of the organization’s policy governing political campaigns and issue advocacy;
- Diversity in the Workplace Study — A survey of existing literature on the subject of racial/ethnic diversity in the workplaces of attorneys in the New York Metropolitan Area, for the purpose of developing a plan to commission or co-author a white paper focused specifically on the representation of Asian American attorneys in the New York Metropolitan Area in the corporate sector at each level of management.

In 2014, the Committee plans to do the following:
- Provide periodic reports on issues of standing or potential concern to the Board of Directors, regularly compiling report items from AABANY’s issue-specific committees;
- Continue development of the diversity white paper project;
- Establish a standing policy platform on matters addressed by the Board of Directors; and
- Establish a process for periodic review of the standing policy platform and a process for considering the adoption of positions on additional issues.
Judiciary Committee

Vincent T. Chang, Theo Cheng, James P. Chou and Robert Leung, Committee Co-Chairs

The Judiciary Committee leads AABANY’s efforts to work towards increasing the number of qualified Asian Pacific American (“APA”) attorneys in the federal, state, and local judiciary and to advocate for the interests of APA judges, including increasing judicial pay and preserving judicial independence.

AABANY’s Judiciary Committee seeks to increase the number of qualified APAs in the federal and state judiciary and to preserve and promote judicial independence.

The Judiciary Committee’s efforts fall into four main categories:

1. It screens candidates for the judiciary to determine whether AABANY should formally support those candidates. The methodology for AABANY’s screening process is posted on the AABANY website.
2. It recruits and prepares candidates seeking their first judicial office, as well as sitting judges seeking higher judicial office.
3. It lobbies and supports candidates for the judiciary whom AABANY has endorsed.
4. It takes positions and engages in advocacy (speeches, legislative testimony, public fora, amicus briefs, and editorials) on issues related to judicial independence and judicial selection.

Additionally, the Judiciary Committee seeks to increase awareness of issues relating to the judiciary among AABANY’s members.

The past year was another productive year for the Judiciary Committee:

Throughout 2013, the Judiciary Committee continued to vet, support, and/or advise candidates for various judicial positions. In particular, we vetted one candidate for a District Judge position and supported her with letters to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand; we also vetted one candidate for a Magistrate Judge position and supported him by letter as well. We also supported Professor Jenny Rivera’s nomination to the New York Court of Appeals. We further continued our support for Judges Lorna G. Schofield of the Southern District of New York and Pamela K. Chen of the Eastern District of New York by attending their respective induction ceremonies. We also supported Judge Randall Eng by attending a celebratory dinner in his honor for being appointed as Presiding Justice of the New York Supreme Court Appellate Division, Second Department.

In February 2013, the Judiciary Committee organized and hosted a forum for all current and former APA Assistant United States Attorneys from the Southern District of New York, the Eastern District of New York, and the District of New Jersey. The forum invited the prosecutors to come and learn about what AABANY can do to help support them in seeking a position in the Federal Judiciary, as well as convey to AABANY their perspectives on that career goal, including possible concerns or obstacles they face.

In June 2013, two of the Judiciary Committee co-chairs attended an invitation-only Second Annual White House Forum on Judicial Vacancies and the Importance of the Courts in Washington, D.C. This high-level strategy session was organized by a coalition of various interest groups concerned about the large number of vacancies in the federal courts. The White House meeting was followed by meetings with NAPABA’s Judiciary Committee and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand’s office.

In August 2013, the Judiciary Committee, along with the Young Lawyers Committee and the Membership Committee, co-sponsored a “Get to Know AABANY” happy hour, the third in a series of social events designed to increase AABANY’s outreach to current and potential members.

In September 2013, the Judiciary Committee hosted the Second Annual Judicial Forum at the AABANY Fall Conference / NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference. This year the Judiciary Committee held separate Federal and

(Continued on page 27)
State forums to brainstorm and discuss ways to increase APA representation on the bench, including developing a pipeline of candidates and to update participants on the efforts that AABANY’s Judiciary Committee has undertaken in this regard.

In October 2013, the Judiciary Committee sponsored two clerkship information programs – one each on the Federal Judiciary and the State Judiciary – with distinguished panelists comprising judges and current and former law clerks. In November 2013, three of the Judiciary Committee co-chairs participated in the NAPABA Judiciary Committee Roundtable discussion at the NAPABA Annual Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. The discussion was organized as an informal and off-the-record discussion about NAPABA’s ongoing efforts to diversify the judiciary, the status of current APA federal judicial nominees, the impact of the midterm elections, and what can be done to help continue the progress being made to increase the number of APA judges nationwide.

The Judiciary Committee participated in open meetings of the New York County Democratic Party’s Judiciary Committee to establish the party’s 2013 Independent Judicial Screening Panel for Civil Court candidates. The Judiciary Committee also recruited and prepared AABANY members to serve on various judicial screening panels, including two of the New York County Democratic Committee’s Independent Judicial Screening Panels and the Joint Minority Bar Screening Panel.

With respect to increasing awareness about judiciary matters, the Judiciary Committee authored an article published in the AABANY Advocate that profiled newly appointed federal judges Lorna G. Schofield and Pamela K. Chen.

The Judiciary Committee looks forward to continuing its work in 2014. If you have any questions about the committee or about the judiciary and the judicial selection process, please do not hesitate to contact one of the co-chairs.

(Continued from page 26)
Labor and Employment Law Committee

Chris Kwok and William Ng, Committee Co-Chairs

On December 10, 2013, AABANY President Mike Huang approved the formation of AABANY’s newest committee – the Labor & Employment Law Committee (“Committee”). The Committee currently consists of more than twenty Asian Pacific American attorneys practicing in various fields of labor and employment law and representing employees, employers and the government. The Committee includes attorneys from private law firms, the Legal Aid Society (Employment Law Unit), the National Labor Relations Board, New York City Law Department (Labor & Employment Law Division), the New York State Department of Labor (Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board), the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and Transit Workers Union.

The Labor & Employment Law Committee’s mission statement is stated as follows:

The Committee looks to promote the professional development of lawyers and human resources professionals practicing or engaging in Labor & Employment law through CLE programs, career panels, and networking events. The Committee actively seeks to connect the Asian American community with the expertise of the lawyers and human resources professionals in the Labor & Employment Law committee, and to promote the education and discussion of workplace issues affecting employees, employers and their families.

The Committee is proud to report that its kickoff and networking event, “Employment Law Update 2014,” was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2014, where seasoned employment practitioners discussed “hot topics” in labor and employment law for the upcoming year. In 2014, the Committee looks forward to expanding its membership and organizing both professional programs and social events. If you are interested in joining the Committee, please contact Christopher Kwok (chris.kwok@aabany.org) or William Ng (william.ng@aabany.org).

AABANY Board member and Committee Co-Chair William Ng represented AABANY at a bar association fair on September 24, 2013 sponsored by the New York City Law Department. Also taking part in the fair were the Brooklyn Bar Association, the New York City Bar, the New York County Lawyers Association, New York Women’s Bar Association, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association and the Queens County Bar Association.
The Litigation Committee is dedicated to attorneys and law students who are interested in litigation. The Committee provides a forum and resources for networking and learning, and sponsors events that are of interest to its members. For 2013-2014, the Committee organized the following events:

On April 4, 2013, the Committee held its first meeting at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP. The meeting allowed members to discuss events and topics for the year and meet fellow members.

On May 9, 2013, the Committee enjoyed a Happy Hour at The Stag’s Head, where new members and law students met members of the Committee.

On July 17, 2012, following the popularity of last year’s “Depositions Bootcamp + Ethics Minefield” CLE, the Committee presented a “Depositions Bootcamp II” CLE with the following panel of senior litigators: Vincent T. Chang (Partner at Wollmuth Maher & Deutsch), James P. Chou (Senior Counsel at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP), Tristan C. Loanzon (Principal at Loanzon Sheikh LLC), Concepcion A. Montoya (Partner at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP), Yasuhiro Saito (Principal at Saito Law Group PLLC), William Wang (Partner at Lee Anav Chung White & Kim LLP), and James S. Yu (Partner at Seyfarth Shaw LLP). The panel was moderated by Committee Co-Chair Concepcion Montoya. Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP did an exceptional job hosting the event.

The CLE was well attended and a great success, thanks to the wonderful panelists who explained the basics of depositions, T-Funnel and timeline questioning, defending depositions and common objections. Practice pointers and tips were also given, as well as a presentation by Hudson Court Reporting. Following the panel discussion and a short mock deposition by the panelists, attendees participated in a workshop. Participants were divided into small groups and in separate conference rooms, where they practiced taking and defending a deposition, based on a short fact pattern and materials previously provided. A panelist was assigned to each group and gave suggestions and tips.

Overall, the attendees found the CLE informative and comprehensive and appreciated the hands-on practical aspect of the workshop. With the help of Francis Chin from the Professional Development Committee, attendees left with certificates for 2 CLE credits.

On August 3, 2013, together with the Young Lawyers Committee, the Litigation Committee held AABANY’s 6th Annual Picnic in Central Park. Family and friends were invited and despite the rain and relocation to Village Pourhouse, many attended and enjoyed getting to know each other.

During the AABANY Fall Conference and NAPABA NE Regional Conference, on September 21, 2013, the Committee presented its 2nd Annual Trial Advocacy Program. For attorneys desiring to learn or brush up on trial skills, AABANY offered a day-long Trial Advocacy Program that trained participants on making opening and closing statements and conducting effective examinations. Among the all-star faculty were the Hon. Pamela Chen (S.D.N.Y) and Iris Lan (U.S. Department of Justice).

On December 17, 2013, the Committee held an ethics CLE at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP entitled “Leopard Print Bikinis and Mistrials … and Other Recent Updates in the Law of Attorney Ethics, Malpractice and Discipline.” Katie M. Lachter of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP presented the program and highlighted interesting cases, which prompted lively discussions. Attendees left with a better understanding of the latest court rulings, ethics opinions and disciplinary decisions in New York.

To start off 2014, the Committee hosted a CLE on January 15, 2014 entitled “Hot Issues in Arbitration” at the offices of Saito Sorenson LLP, where attendees received 1.5 CLE credits. Theodore K. Cheng (Partner at Fox Horan & Camerini LLP) moderated the following distinguished panel: Andrew T. Hahn, Sr. (Partner at Duane Morris LLP), Anthony J. Hom (Principal at Law Office of Anthony J. Hom PC), L. Lynnette C. Sarno (Head of Employee Relations, Americas, Macquarie Bank) and Joane S. Wong (Senior Trial Attorney, NLRB). The panel explored various “hot issues” including class action waivers, discovery issues, vacatur motions on arbitral awards, and the need for more diverse neutrals.

The Litigation Committee hopes to build on its success in 2014-2015!
The Pro Bono and Community Service Committee encourages pro bono legal service among Asian American attorneys and informs the community of their legal rights and works with not-for-profits to bring free/low cost legal services to them.

In 2013, the Committee has been focused on putting attorneys, law clerks and law students who would like to provide pro bono services in touch with organizations that serve the underprivileged of New York. The Committee received a number of inquiries from attorneys who were interested in pro bono work, but lacked a pro bono practice at their workplace or school to get them started. The Committee put these attorneys in touch with contacts at organizations like the New York Asian Women’s Center, AALDEF, Minkwon Center for Community Action, New York Legal Assistance Group, Sanctuary for Families and Her Justice (formerly inMotion) to allow them to target the communities and areas of law in which they wanted to serve.

The Committee also co-sponsored a happy hour mixer with the Government Services and Public Interest Committee on April 30, 2013, to allow the public service community to mix and exchange ideas with pro bono attorneys and to promote membership in AABANY.

In addition, the Committee co-sponsored with AALDEF a series of CLE programs entitled, “Monitoring Elections for Voting Rights Act Language Assistance Provisions Compliance,” which took place throughout October, 2013 in New York, New York; Brooklyn, New York; Newark, New Jersey; and Washington, D.C. Volunteer attorneys, law and undergraduate students and community volunteers assisted in monitoring poll sites during the elections in NYC, NJ and Virginia on November 5, 2013 to assess compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act. Attorneys and law students were able to receive pro bono credits or CLE credits.

This CLE was designed in response to past elections, wherein Asian Americans have faced serious barriers in exercising their right to vote. For example, poll workers who were hostile and made racist remarks; poll sites which had too few interpreters to assist Asian American voters; translated voting materials that were missing or hidden from voters; and ballots which were mistranslated.

On January 30, 2014 the Committee will co-sponsor a CLE entitled, “Cross Cultural Lawyering: How to Effectively Represent the Immigrant Population,” with the Government Service and Public Interest Committee, Immigration and Nationality Law Committee and Brooklyn Law School APALSA. For more information, please see the Government Service and Public Interest Committee report.

The Committee will co-sponsor an immigration legal clinic at the Minkwon Center in March 2014. The Minkwon Center is holding the clinic in response to many AABANY members expressing interest in serving the Asian American community throughout Chinatown.
The continuing mission of the Professional Development Committee (PDC) is to improve the skills and knowledge of AABANY’s members as they advance in their professional careers. We provide opportunities for members to work together through the administration of our continuing legal education programs.

Continuing Legal Education
This year we are proud to have provided 21 different free or low-cost Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs for our members and the legal community in the New York City area. All of our programs are organized and presented by volunteers and are sponsored by generous law firms, corporations, and community organizations. We seek to provide these resources free or at low cost without compromising the quality or educational value of our programs.

Programs were sponsored by AABANY’s committees or with one of AABANY’s partners, including the Network of Bar Leaders, the MinKwon Center for Community Action, and the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, as well as the Asian Pacific American law student associations at Brooklyn and Columbia Law Schools. The role of the PDC is to provide guidance in organizing and documenting the programs according to the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board, issuing CLE credits to participants, and making the required periodic reports to the Office of Court Administration.

In total, we offered 61.5 credits of continuing legal education. This included 9.5 credits of ethics. All of these credits were free for AABANY members except for the cost of the NAPABA Northeast Regional/AABANY Fall Conference ($100 for members, which included a full day of CLEs as well as breakfast, lunch, cocktail hour, and admission to a committee dinner). This represents a great savings over the cost of CLE programs elsewhere.

NAPABA Northeast Regional/AABANY Fall Conference
A day-long CLE event, the joint NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference and AABANY Fall Conference, was held on September 21 at the law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in New York City. Fourteen 1.5-credit programs were presented by the NAPABA regional affiliates in conjunction with AABANY’s committees in a wide range of subjects, such as crowdfunding, the connection between intellectual property and everything else, recovery after Superstorm Sandy, immigration reform, and general counsel crisis management. In addition, a full-day intensive program in trial advocacy was taught by experienced judges and attorneys. A plenary session discussing the ramifications of the Fisher v. University of Texas (133 S. Ct. 2411 (2013)) affirmative action case was moderated by U.S. District Judge Pamela K. Chen.

Hon. Thomas Tang Moot Court Northeast Regional Competition
In conjunction with the NAPABA Law Foundation and the Brooklyn Law School Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, AABANY hosted the Hon. Thomas Tang Moot Court Northeast Regional Competition at Brooklyn Law School. Francis Chin and Samuel Yee were the co-tournament directors, and over 20 AABANY members served as judges. Finalists St. John’s University School of Law and Florida Coastal University School of Law advanced to the national competition in Kansas City. The team from St. John’s University was a national quarter-finalist.

(Continued on page 32)
Legal Reenactments

Iva: The Myth of Tokyo Rose

The story of Iva Toguri D’Aquino, a Japanese American convicted of treason for being World War II Japanese propaganda broadcaster “Tokyo Rose”, was the subject of our 2010 NAPABA legal reenactment CLE led by U.S. Circuit Judge Denny Chin, Kathy Chin, and Vincent Chang. This year it was professionally produced as a well-received dramatic production presented at the Asia Society in association with the Asian American Arts Alliance. This production was held in May as part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. At the end of 2013, it was recognized by the New York State Bar Association’s Conference Bar Leaders as a recipient of the Bar Leaders Innovation Award, to be presented at the NYSBA Annual Meeting at the end of January 2014 in New York City.

22 Lewd Chinese Women

Our legal reenactment team, led by U.S. Circuit Judge Denny Chin, Kathy Chin, and Vincent Chang, presented a new production in November at the 25th NAPABA Conference at Kansas City. “22 Lewd Chinese Women” is based on the Supreme Court case Chy Lung v. Freeman, 92 U.S. 75 (1875), a seminal case establishing the supremacy of federal law in the realm of immigration, but serves as an equally telling tale of the discrimination against the Chinese of the time, as well as the exploitation and trafficking of women. The production was inspired by an article on the website Slate, and was subsequently covered by The Atlantic magazine and was featured on National Public Radio’s “CodeSwitch” segment on Weekend Edition.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we had a very productive year, providing a wide range of professional development opportunities for our members, and we hope to continue our progress next year. We are truly grateful for the many active members, volunteer presenters, and sponsors who have generously contributed to make this possible.
### Table: Continuing Legal Education Programs offered in 2013

**CLE Categories:** Ethics=Ethics & Professionalism; Areas=Areas of Professional Practice; Skills; LPM=Law Practice Management

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<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ethics</th>
<th>Areas</th>
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<td>What Happens to Your Data Online?</td>
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<td>From Fisher to Stuyvesant: What Affirmative Action Means for Asian Americans</td>
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<td>Effective Techniques in Mediation Advocacy</td>
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**TOTALS**: 9.5 34.5 14.5 5.5 61.5
Prosecutors’ Committee

Brian Lee and Rosemary Yu, Committee Co-Chairs

The goals of the Prosecutors’ Committee include the advancement and professional development of APA prosecutors, the establishment of a network between former and current APA prosecutors, the recruitment of APA law students to become prosecutors, and the cultivation of trust and communication between the APA community and the local prosecutors’ offices. There are currently over one hundred APA prosecutors serving New York City.

On January 31, 2013, the Prosecutors’ Committee spearheaded a community dinner honoring Justice Randall Eng on his historic appointment as the Presiding Justice of the Second Department, Appellate Division. The event was moderated by Ti-Hua Chang and attended by over 200 people consisting of judges and lawyers as well as community leaders and members. Sponsored by the Judiciary Committee, the dinner was held at Delight 28 restaurant in Chinatown, an area that was severely damaged by Hurricane Sandy just three months prior.

On March 7, 2013, members of the Prosecutors’ Committee joined the NYPD Asian Jade Society for their Annual Scholarship Dinner/Dance. This marked the third year that we have attended and supported the NYPD’s Asian American fraternal organization.

On April 11, 2013, members of the Prosecutors’ Committee—Cristina Park, Sabrina Thanse, Archana Rao and Rosemary Yu—served as panelists for an event entitled, “Asian American Women Prosecutors: Raising the Bar and Tearing Down the Barriers.” The event was sponsored by the Asian Women In Business and moderated by former prosecutor Sandra Leung. Held at the law firm of White & Case LLP, the panelists discussed various topics, including what the life of a female prosecutor is like, and balancing work with family and other obligations.

On May 21, 2013, the Prosecutors’ Committee sponsored an event at the Kings County District Attorney’s Office in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage month. At the event, the KCDA honored community members Mitu Alam, Denny Chen and Don Lee for their dedicated service to Asian Americans in Brooklyn.

On June 14, 2013, members of the Prosecutors’ Committee were delighted to witness one of our own, Pamela Chen, being sworn in as Judge of the Eastern District of New York. Judge Chen’s Investiture Ceremony was a memorable event, filled with laughter and high appreciation. We, as a committee, could not be more proud of Judge Chen and her achievements.

On June 19, 2013, we held the annual Prosecutors’ Dinner, our marquee event of the year, at the New York County Lawyers Association. This year we celebrated our 5th Anniversary and were joined by distinguished speakers (who also happened to be our bosses): The Hon. Preet Bhahara (U.S. Attorney, S.D.N.Y.), Robert Johnson (District Attorney, Bronx County), Daniel Donovan (District Attorney, Richmond County), Kathleen Rice (District Attorney, Nassau County), Cyrus Vance (District Attorney, New York County) and Bridget Brennan (Special Narcotics Prosecutor, New York County). We were also joined by the Hon. Denny Chin; Barbara Moses, President of NYCLA; and other notable guests. At the event, we were privileged to honor two former Asian American female prosecutors who had recently been confirmed as Article III Judges: Pamela Chen (E.D.N.Y.) and Lorna G. Schofield (S.D.N.Y.).

On September 24, 2013, the Prosecutors’ Committee co-sponsored a panel discussion with the Diversity Committee of the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office. The panel of Asian American Prosecutors - Brian Lee (Nassau), Kin Ng (Kings), Cristina Park (Bronx), Nitin Savur (Manhattan), Maria Fedor (Queens) and Jin Lee (Staten Island) – gave their viewpoints on what life is like as a prosecutor. The discussion was targeted towards law students and practicing attorneys considering a career as a prosecutor. The panelists gave practical advice on the application process for their respective offices as well as insight into the challenges and obstacles faced by Asian American prosecutors.

On November 21, 2013, the Prosecutors’ Committee members Samuel Yee, Elizabeth Mo and Emily Ching attended the NAPABA Conference in Kansas City and served as judges in the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition (when they were not busy sampling KC’s famous barbeque scene that is).

On December 10, 2013, approximately 50 members of the Prosecutors’ Committee and the Government Service and Public Interest Committee came together at Apple Bar in the Village to celebrate the holidays in what we hope will become an annual event. The mixer also served as a gift drive for the New York Asian Women’s Center. The attendees donated numerous items for the women served by the NYAWC, items which will help the women with their practical needs.
Real Estate Committee

Margaret Ling and Wendy Yu, Committee Co-Chairs

The Real Estate Committee provides advice, support, information and professional development to Asian Pacific Attorneys of all levels – new attorneys and experienced attorneys as well as APA law students. Specific attention has been focused on community outreach to the real estate attorneys within the APA community in the outer boroughs beyond Manhattan who are in solo practice or small firms in an effort to expand their membership and participation with AABANY. The Committee addresses topics of concern including transactional, management, development of real property and latest statutes and changes in New York’s Real Property Law. The committee has accomplished this through CLE seminars, discussion and networking sessions with corporate and bank sponsorships.

For 2013, the Real Estate Committee has continued to focus on the following:

- Mentoring APA law students and attorneys on job skills, resumes, networking techniques, and interviewing;
- Understanding and representing the Asian foreign purchaser in residential and commercial transactions;
- Community outreach to solo and small firm attorneys in the outer boroughs of Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and Long Island. This has been effectively accomplished through co-partnership with the AABANY Solo and Small Firm Committee; co-partnerships with other Asian not-for-profit associations including the Asian Real Estate Association-New York East Chapter; Chinese American Real Estate Association; Queens Asian Bar Association; KALAGNY; Asian Americans for Equality; and MinKwon Center;
- Cross-partnerships and joint events such as post-Hurricane Sandy relief events with Federal, State and NYC governmental agencies including HUD, the Fair Housing Administration, NYC HRA, Governor Cuomo’s Office;
- Ethics programs on real estate practice;
- Commercial real estate development within the Asian Community: office condos, luxury boutique hotels, shopping centers;
- Representing the first-time home buyer; and
- The growth of the Asian segment and how it is changing and affecting demographics.

The Real Estate Committee provides CLE seminars and networking events with corporate and bank sponsors including Bank of America, Citibank, Capital One, Wells Fargo, JPMorgan Chase, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Summit Associates, and First American Title Insurance Company.

For the 2013 AABANY Year, the Real Estate Committee organized, presented at or co-sponsored the following events:

June 12, 2013: “New York State Attorney General on Condos & Offering Plans: the Requirements” at U.S. Trust, 114 West 47th Street, New York, New York. Program was co-sponsored by Bank of America and was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee, Government Service and Public Interest Committee, and Immigration and Nationality Law Committee. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

June 24, 2013: “Recurring Issues of a Foreign Purchaser in NYC” at The Yale Club of New York City, 50 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, New York. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee and the Immigration and Nationality Law Committee and sponsored by Baker Tilly. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

July 9, 2013: “Claims Chronicles: Common Title Claims Title Companies Face Today” at Mudan Banquet Hall, Queens Crossing, 136-17 39th Avenue, Flushing, Queens. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and sponsored by Citibank, N.A. and Summit Associates. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

(Continued on page 36)
Chapter. 1 CLE credit in Professional Practice was provided. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee.

January 15, 2014: “Understanding 1031 Exchanges” at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, 1 Penn Plaza, New York, New York. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and sponsored by Citibank, N.A., and Baker Tilly. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

In addition, Wendy Yu, currently Co-Chair of the AABANY Solo and Small Firm Committee has agreed to serve as Co-Chair of the AABANY Real Estate Committee with Margaret Ling.

Events planned for February 2014 include:

February 6, 2014: Lunar New Year Networking Dinner, co-sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank, AREAA, Summit Associates. We expect 100 real estate attorneys, realtors and bankers. It will be held at Mudan in Flushing and is a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee.

February 2014: A networking event, co-sponsored by Citibank, with an expected 75 attorneys and done in collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and Immigration and Nationality Law Committees.

Future 2014 events include:

- Bank of America: Powerful Real Estate Women;
- The Asian Developer and the Luxury Boutique Hotel
- Asia Banks and the New York Asian Community
- HUD Event with President Obama’s Asia Initiative on Housing
- AAFE and AREAA event on Affordable Housing in NYC
- Real Estate Attorney Career Panel
- Real Estate Fraud and Ethics CLE
- Real Estate Contracts and Closings Part II

The Committee will continue to seek bank and corporate sponsorships for its many events.

October 30, 2013: “The Growth of the Asian Real Estate Segment and Their Purchasing Power in NYC” at Mudan Banquet Hall, Queens Crossing, 136-17 39th Avenue, Flushing, Queens. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and sponsored by Capital One Bank, Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA), New York East, and Baker Tilly. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

November 20, 2013: “Real Estate 101: From Contract to Closing” at JPMorgan Chase Bank, 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza, New York, New York. This program was organized along with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and sponsored by JPMorgan Chase Bank. This program provided 1.5 CLE credits toward Areas of Professional Practice.

December 5, 2013: “From LOI to Execution – Effective Lease Negotiation Strategies” at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, 1 Penn Plaza, New York, New York. This program was a collaboration with the Solo and Small Firm Committee and sponsored by Baker Tilly. This program provided 1 CLE credit toward Areas of Professional Practice.

December 12, 2013: “Navigating the Affordable Care Act for Solo and Small Firm Attorneys and Small Businesses” at 360 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York and sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association, New York City
Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee

Pauline Yeung and Wendy Yu, Committee Co-Chairs

The Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee’s continuing goals are providing support and guidance in professional development to newly admitted attorneys, transitioning attorneys, solo attorneys and small APA firms, in areas such as practice management, law firm formation, marketing techniques, capital funding, and ethical concerns. Our Committee also organizes CLE and non-CLE programs on topics popular and of interest to attorneys practicing in New York City.

2013 was a very busy and successful year for the Committee. First, we focused on membership increase by delivering hot topic areas to our members that spark their interests. When our Committee was renamed from the Community Practice Committee in 2011, we had approximately 30 members. In 2012, we doubled our membership and had over 60 members. In 2013, not only was our Committee able to continue to sustain its current members, we were able to significantly increase our membership and had over 110 members.

Second, our Committee had the pleasure to work with the Real Estate Committee, Young Lawyers Committee, and Immigration and Nationality Law Committee to successfully provide AABANY members and attorneys 9.5 CLE credit programs and 2 non-CLE programs, an increase from 5 CLE credit programs and 1 non-CLE program given in the previous year. Due to the diverse backgrounds of our members, our Committee was mindful in selecting convenient program locations to increase member attendance and participation. In addition, our Committee supported the efforts of the Student Outreach Committee and participated as panel speakers in their October program.

Between June 2013 and January 2014 we collaborated with the Real Estate Committee on nine events. Please refer to the Real Estate Committee Report for the details.

In addition, we held the following programs:

October 26, 2013: “Meet AABANY and Law School Survival Workshop” at New York University School of Law, Furman Hall, 245 Sullivan Street, New York, New York. This program was organized by the Student Outreach Committee and our Committee participated as panel speakers.

January 16, 2014: “How Can a Business Owner Benefit from Affordable Care Act?” at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of NY, Inc., 33 Bowery, New York, New York. This program was sponsored by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of New York, Inc., Chinatown Manpower of New York, the Chinese American Society of CPAs, the Asian-American Entrepreneurs Network, and Business Outreach Center Network. It provided a networking opportunity for members and was a non-CLE program.

Future events include:

February 11, 2014: “Key Apps for Running a Small Firm Practice” (venue to be determined). This program will be cosponsored by the Immigration and Nationality Law Committee and will provide 1 CLE credit toward Law Practice Management.

March 2014: “Lunar New Year Holiday Party” (place and date to be determined). This program is sponsored by Citibank, N.A. and will be a collaboration with the Real Estate Committee and Immigration and Nationality Law Committee. This is a non-CLE networking event for small firms.

As technology is becoming one of the most critical components in running a small firm, as Co-Chairs, we believe that it is ripe for our Committee in 2014 to aim for events that would provide solo and small firms the ability to operate efficiently and economically through the use of technology. The goal would be to help attorneys enhance their marketing skills, create a niche practice, brand their firm’s name, run their office in the cloud, and build a successful network of referrals.

Our Committee is unique in that it encompasses APA solo and small firm attorneys from many different practice areas. We continue to welcome and encourage attorneys from all practice areas to join our Committee and share with us their experiences, concerns, and ideas. We will continue to provide valuable events and programs to meet their needs and interests.
Student Outreach Committee

Amy Luo and Amy Ngai, Committee Co-Chairs

ABANY’s Student Outreach Committee (“SOC”) seeks to equip APA students with concrete skills to excel academically and professionally. In addition, the SOC acts as a bridge between law students and attorneys, encouraging APA students to be active in the APA legal community. To achieve these goals, SOC sponsors career programs, networking events, and social activities. Currently, there are more than 300 APA law student members in AABANY, and the SOC works with approximately 18 law schools in the tri-state region.

In 2013, the Student Outreach Committee continued its efforts to bridge law students with Asian Pacific American legal professionals in the tri-state area.

At the end of May, SOC collaborated with the Corporate Law Committee, Young Lawyers Committee, and Membership Committee for a successful “Get to Know AABANY” happy hour mixer. Over 70 people attended the event, including law students from various law schools in the New York region. The event was hosted at the Rubin Museum of Art in Manhattan where attendees were able to mingle with each other, connect, and chat about the art pieces surrounding them.

In the Fall, SOC co-hosted a trilogy of seminars, focusing on business-appropriate makeup and fashion for men and women, with the Women’s Committee and Young Lawyers’ Committee. Each innovative seminar highlighted the do’s and don’ts of professional business attire and accessories that are relevant to our legal profession. Attendees included both legal professionals and law students, all of whom received goodie bags and discounts. More details appear in the Young Lawyers’ Committee report.

In addition to encouraging students to connect with APA professionals through networking events, SOC also seeks to equip APA students with concrete skills to excel academically and professionally. We are extremely proud to have worked with several APALSAs and firms to meet these goals.

SOC continued our annual tradition of hosting Resume and Interview Workshops for law students. On July 18, 2013, SOC AABANY and the Mentorship Program of KALAGNY collaborated on a resume workshop at Shearman and Sterling, LLP. On July 31, the two bar associations also hosted an Interview Workshop at Dechert, LLP. Over 80 lawyers and law students came to these workshops. Each workshop began with esteemed panelists offering tips and insights on how to effectively convey a job candidate’s skills through a resume and through interview answers. After the panel, students worked one-on-one with volunteer attorneys in a mock interview and resume critique session.

In the Fall of 2013, SOC co-hosted a “Networking 101” workshop with Hofstra Law School APALSA in Long Island, New York. Christopher Chan, Esq. demonstrated to attendees the different techniques to easily begin conversation with strangers at professional events. The workshop was extremely informative and all the attendees had fun roleplaying the different techniques.

On October 27, 2013, SOC also hosted its second annual “Meet AABANY and Law School Survival Skills” Workshop at NYU Law School. The workshop also featured a keynote speech by Professor Jerry Kang on implicit bias in the legal profession; and a networking session. AABANY Committees’ Co-Chairs served as panelists and provided insight and advice to the law student attendees.

This year, the SOC Committee Chairs were invited to judge the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition held at Brooklyn Law School. Competitors came from various parts of the country for the competition. We were excited to make a direct contribution to fostering the skills of law students in trial advocacy.

Aside from networking events and workshops hosted by SOC, our committee strives to encourage student participation and attendance at any AABANY event. Next year, we hope to continue our goals and further connect students to the APA community as early in their careers as possible.
The Women’s Committee strives to foster the advancement of women in the law and to organize programs geared toward the APA female attorney. The Committee aims to develop and present throughout the year career and practice development-related programs that cover a variety of practice areas and legal topics. The Committee also seeks to provide a forum for professional and social networking both within and outside of AABANY through unique networking events.

2012 “Outstanding Committee of the Year”

The Women’s Committee received AABANY’s “Outstanding Committee of the Year” award for 2012 in recognition of then Co-Chairs Vinny Lee and Liza Sohn’s commitment to providing innovative and informative programs for AABANY members.

Kickoff Meeting and Welcome Dinner

On March 18, 2013, the Women’s Committee held a kick-off meeting and welcome dinner at Congee Village. Approximately twenty members—both returning familiar faces and several new faces to AABANY and/or the Women’s Committee—attended and connected with each other over a family-style dinner. Yang Chen, AABANY’s Executive Director, Jane Chuang, Treasurer, and James Yu, Vice President of Programs and Operations, were also in attendance. At the meeting, Vinny Lee (then Co-Chair) and Naf Kwun (Current Co-Chair) introduced upcoming programs, including the highly successful Women-In-Law-Connect Networking Mixer that took place later that month. Vinny and Naf also introduced the Committee’s new Public Relations Co-Chairs, Bindu Nair and Connie Yik Kong. Beginning with the great turnout at the kickoff meeting and dinner, the entire Women’s Committee started the year off with a slate of great programs for its members.

Women In Law Connect Spring Mixer

On March 28, 2013, over 70 attendees participated in the third Women-In-Law-Connect Networking mixer, co-sponsored by a record number of six organizations: the Women’s Committees of AABANY and SABANY, the Black Bar Association of Bronx County, the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, and the Muslim Bar Association of New York. This highly attended event, held at PS 450 in Midtown East, brought together and connected attorneys from different backgrounds and diverse practice areas. Attendees also had a chance to enter a raffle for a $30 Starbucks gift card. Congratulations to Tina Taft Hobson, Esq. on winning. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and make this event a great success!

Tee Off Your Business Network

On June 5, 2013, the AABANY Women’s Committee and In-House Counsel Committee collaborated on the unique opportunity, “Tee Off Your Business Network,” at Drive495, NYC’s premier indoor golf fitness club located in the heart of SoHo. A special networking event designed for women attorneys interested in the professional and social benefits of golf, “Tee Off” drew attorneys from law firms, solo practices, and companies, including AIG Inc., The Chinese-American Planning Council Inc., Empire State Development, Fortress Investment Group, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, MetLife, New York Liquidation Bureau, The Rockefeller Group, Time Inc., and Verizon Wireless. Attendees also included representatives from
Elisa Dreier Reporting Corp., who helped sponsor the event.

The majority of attendees were new to golf and therefore eager to learn about the game from experts and to practice on Drive495’s state-of-the-art driving range simulators. The evening’s program began with an introductory lesson from top-ranked PGA teaching professionals who covered golf terminology and equipment, swing fundamentals and technique, course etiquette, and course management. Beginning players subsequently separated into smaller groups for hands-on practice, while experienced players received personalized tips on how to improve their game. Attendees also competed for a chance to win a 30-day membership to Drive495, and received a complimentary gift card to NY Golf Center.

Throughout the evening, attendees met and mingled as they enjoyed wine and light hors d’oeuvres. A fun time was had by all, and there were many requests for similar networking events in the future. Thank you again to all who attended and organized to help make this a successful event!

All members received expert advice on improving their golf game and had the opportunity to mix and mingle with other members of the Women’s and In-House Committees at Drive495’s golf facilities in SoHo.

Mid-Year Committee Meeting and Midsummer Dinner
On August 20, 2014, Committee members were treated to an opportunity to network over a family-style dinner at Zabb Elee in the East Village. Members had the opportunity to provide feedback on Committee programs from the last year, learn about upcoming programs, get involved in planning and make suggestions for future events.

Fall Style Series
The Women’s Committee joined with the Student Out-

Committee members volunteered to strut their stuff on the runway for Part II of the Fall Style Series, “Women’s Suiting 101” in Gurjot New York’s showroom in mid-town Manhattan.

reach, Women’s, Career Placement and Young Lawyers Committees to present a three-part series on makeup, women’s personal branding and power dressing, and men’s suitings. For further details, see the Young Lawyers’ Committee Report.

Breakfast with Senator Hirono
On November 18, 2013, Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) was in town for the Women’s Senate Network 2013 Policy Conference and while she was here, she took a moment out of her busy schedule on Monday morning, November 18, to meet with some of AABANY’s leaders. Women’s Committee Co-Chairs Naf Kwun and Sapna Palla, Immigration and Nationality Law Committee Co-Chair Tsui Yee and Executive Director Yang Chen sat down for breakfast with the Senator.

In a free flowing and wide-ranging conversation, Senator Hirono shared with AABANY’s leaders her thoughts about increasing civic engagement and participation by APAs in politics and the political process, immigration reform and increasing diversity on the bench. Senator Hirono introduced the AABANY group to EMILY’s List as a resource to help train future political candidates to run for office.

Senator Hirono urged AABANY members to step up and get involved in politics as a way to make an impact in our communities. We look forward to remaining in contact with Senator Hirono and finding ways to work together with her to advance and serve our APA communities.

Women-In-Law Connect Holiday Mixer
On December 11, the Women’s Committee co-hosted the final installment of the popular Women in Law Connect Series with a Holiday Mixer held at Pranna. The event brought together members of women’s committees from AABANY, KALAGNY, SABANY, MuBANY, MBBA and the Black Bar Association of Bronx County. The Holiday Mixer was a wonderful opportunity for members of various bar associations to network and enjoy the holiday season. Thanks to all those who attended, and thanks to Naf and Sapna, AABANY Women’s Committee Co-Chairs, for coordinating the event. The Women’s Committee plans to hold a similar networking event series in the spring.
Young Lawyers’ Committee

Elizabeth L. Mo and Irene Tan, Committee Co-Chairs

The AABANY Young Lawyers’ Committee (“YLC”) focuses on the concerns of lawyers admitted to practice ten years or less but is open to all lawyers and law students. Activities include networking receptions, panel discussions and CLE courses of interest to newly-admitted attorneys. This year the YLC sponsored a number of new program offerings, including the Fall Style Series, the AABANY Running Club, and participation in a number of community service events. Overall, we had a fantastic year getting to know both new and old members while learning how to better serve our growing membership.

The YLC kicked off the year with its first committee meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at Seyfarth Shaw LLP. With over twenty members present, we had a robust discussion on initiatives for the new year that included ideas such as a running club and financial planning workshops. We held a follow up committee meeting on Thursday, October 24th, 2013 at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP where further feedback was solicited. Many of the ideas discussed at these meetings were successfully executed with the help of our members and are more fully described below.

Professional Development

On May 29, 2013, YLC and Lenox Advisors presented a workshop entitled "Planning for your Financial Future: An Evening with Financial Planners." During the workshop, attendees had the opportunity to ask financial planners for advice on budgeting, retirement planning, and student loans. On September 12, 2013, YLC and Ameriprise Financial Services presented a CLE on family and estate planning. The panel of speakers included Niraj Chhabra of Ameriprise Financial Services and Leah Del Percio of Fein Such Law Group.

In the fall, YLC, Student Outreach and Women’s Committee presented the Fall Style Series, a 3-part program designed to help members present their professional best. This three-part series included a makeup seminar, women’s suiting event, and men’s suiting event.

On September 12, 2013, we co-sponsored part I of the Fall Style Series, “Makeup Seminar—How to Wear Makeup for All Occasions, from the Courtroom, Conference Room to Cocktails” at Seyfarth Shaw LLP. During an interactive workshop, freelance makeup artist Jennifer Fung showed members the “do’s” and “don’t’s” of makeup for the workplace. The seminar included a skincare tutorial, makeup demos on some of our very own members, and a discussion on makeup tips and recommendations. Attendees also left with samples so they could practice their new skills at home.

On October 2, 2013, we co-sponsored part II, “Women’s Suiting 101 – The Art of Marketing Yourself: Personal Branding and Power Dressing” at the showroom of Gurjot New York. Founder and CEO Gurjot Sidhu led a discussion on personal branding and discussed how to define and promote one’s own personal brand as a lawyer. The workshop also included an exciting fashion show with YLC members as the models for some of Gurjot New York’s most popular pieces.

On October 10, 2013, we co-sponsored part III, “Men’s Suiting 101” at Seyfarth Shaw LLP featuring Black Lapel, Jeremy Lin’s preferred suit stylists. At the workshop, Black Lapel’s style team showed attendees how to find the perfect fit and style by body type. You might even catch AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen wearing his custom suit at one of our next events!

Networking Events

As in prior years, YLC’s events featured a number of happy hours and social events. This year we continued to participate in the Get-to-Know AABANY Happy Hours and held our annual summer picnic. We also sought to network with our fellow New York-based bar associations too.

On May 30, 2013, YLC along with the Membership Committee, the Corporate Law Committee, and the Student Outreach Committee co-sponsored a “Get-to-Know AABANY” networking event at The Rubin Museum. This event drew over 70 AABANY members and friends, and (Continued on page 42)
allowed attendees the chance to mingle while exploring the museum for free.

On August 8, 2013, YLC along with the Membership Committee and Judiciary Committee co-sponsored a second “Get-to-Know AABANY” networking event at Onieals.

On June 21 and August 6, 2013, YLC hosted two happy hours at Skyroom NYC with NYCLA and the Brooklyn Bar Association. YLC members had a great time mingling with members of our fellow NY-based bar associations while enjoying a stunning view of the NYC skyline.

On a rainy August 3, 2013, YLC and the Litigation Committee held the AABANY Annual Picnic. While the rain kept us from the park, we took shelter at the local Village Pourhouse while enjoying a gigantic six-foot sub! As for entertainment, the group had a ton of fun playing Heads Up (a combination of charades and taboo) on Irene’s cell phone.

On September 21, 2013, YLC joined the Litigation Committee for dinner after AABANY’s Fall Conference/NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference at Aperitivo Pizza Bar. After hours of riveting CLEs, it was a great time chatting with each other over some delicious Italian food!

Community Service Events
This year, YLC decided to integrate community service events into the program so that our members could bond with one another while giving back to the community.

On May 19, 2013, a team organized and led by YLC member Ben Chan participated in AIDS Walk in New York City. The weather didn’t keep our dedicated members from participating in this great cause! Participants helped raise funds and awareness in the struggle to find a cure for HIV/AIDS.

On July 20, 2013, YLC members Gabriel Arce-Yee and Jay Min coordinated a restoration project for Habitat for Humanity. Leading a team of YLC members, the group worked through the summer heat wave to remove damaged basement drywall and landscape a private community yard located in Brooklyn, New York.

On December 15, 2013, a group of fifteen YLC members spent their Sunday afternoon volunteering at Welcome Table, the meal program at Xavier Mission. YLC members helped on a range of projects including food service and clean up while getting better acquainted with their fellow AABANY members. With their help, Xavier Mission served over 1,000 meals to those less fortunate in the community.

AABANY Running Club
YLC started a running club this year in an effort to promote fitness and health amongst its members. With the help of two of our YLC members, Jackie Sitjar and Alana Sitterly, YLC held a number of meetings downtown in the Financial District. During the running club meetings, members participated in a leisurely three-mile run and exchanged running tips over dinner. A number of our members completed marathons and half-marathons this year, including Jackie, Alana and Irene!

In 2014, YLC looks forward to continuing this momentum and having many more new and innovative events for its members. We welcome and invite interested members to become involved in the planning of events this coming year.
Mentorship Program

Julie Kwon, Program Coordinator

The Mentorship Program was initiated in response to demand for a more formalized program after a long history of AABANY members engaging in informal mentoring relationships. Currently, over 100 mentors and nearly 300 mentees participate in the program.

The mission of the program is to connect mentors with mentees and provide them with the structure and opportunities to support professional growth and development. When matching mentors with mentees, the program focuses on personal interests and hobbies, in addition to practice areas, in order to facilitate long-lasting relationships that are compatible both personally and professionally.

Paired-up mentors and mentees connected on their own as well as at a variety of AABANY events.

On July 25, 2013, AABANY held a mid-summer happy hour at the Ainsworth in the Chelsea neighborhood for its mentors and mentees in the Mentorship Program. Mentees had an opportunity to catch up with their mentors and network with fellow colleagues. Attendees included those who were interested in learning more about the Mentorship Program from Julie Kwon, Coordinator of the Mentorship Program, and from participants in this year’s program. The opening of registration for the 2013-14 Mentorship Program was announced on July 23.

The 2013-14 Mentorship Program was launched at AABANY’s Fall Conference, where mentors and mentees from the previous program years were able to reconnect and those from this program year were able to meet and introduce each other. A follow up mentor-mentee event will be held in February 2014 to give mentors and mentees an opportunity to interact and network.

For the upcoming year, the Mentorship Program will continue to organize networking events and other opportunities to support its participants’ professional growth and advancement. Moreover, it will be developing guidelines to help foster meaningful and rewarding mentoring relationships.
Advisory Committee 2013

The Advisory Committee assists and supports AABANY’s officers and directors in their efforts to increase AABANY’s visibility; raises funds to continue AABANY’s mission; and advises on sensitive issues that may arise.

Matthew Biben General Counsel (Chase Consumer and Community Bank) and Senior Legal Advisor, JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Alan Chang Deputy General Counsel, Vice President, Legal Affairs, The New York Yankees
Yang Chen Executive Director, AABANY
Sylvia F. Chin Partner, White & Case LLP
James P. Chou Senior Counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Katherine M. Choo Chief Investigative and Anti-Corruption Counsel, GE
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AABANY Officers, Directors and Advisory Committee members pose for the traditional group photo at the 24th Annual Dinner on February 27, 2013. Back row, from left to right: Michael Kim, Ben Hsing, Alex Moon, Bobby Liu, Dev Sen, Mike Huang, Michael Yap, An Ping Hsieh, and Andrew T. Hahn. Front row, from left to right: Linda Lin, Jean Lee, Yang Chen, Clara Ohr, James Chou, Joy Huibonhoa, Robert Leung, Yun Lee, and Don Liu.